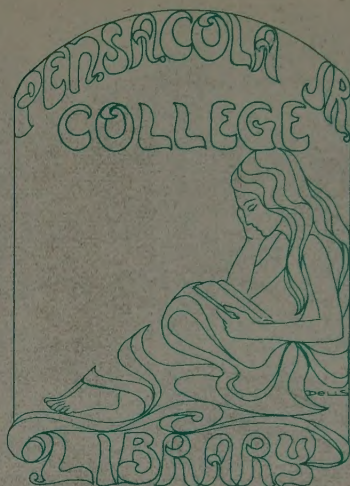




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PENSACOLA, FL. 32504

THE PAPERS OF SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON

Prepared for publication by
The Division of Archives and History

JAMES SULLIVAN Ph.D.
Director and State Historian

VOLUME I

ALBANY,
THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
1921

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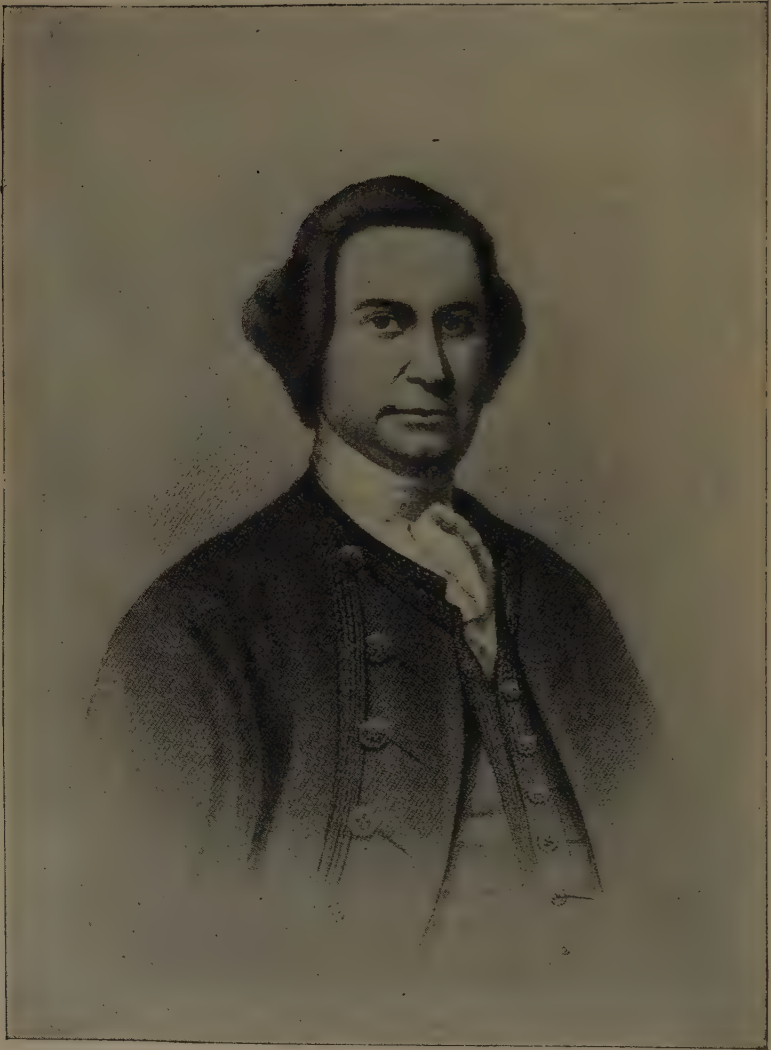
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INTRODUCTION

The Sir William Johnson manuscripts in the New York State Library cover a period from 1738 to 1808. From 1738 to 1745 the papers are few in number. This is also true of those from 1774 to 1808. As Sir William died in 1774 the few papers which we have from that year to 1808 relate to matters with which his relatives were connected.

The importance of this collection for the history of the period which it covers can scarcely be overestimated. Johnson in his official capacity as Indian agent or as a military officer, and in the conduct of his private affairs, corresponded with people in all walks of life both in this country and abroad. His papers, consisting of letters sent and received, bills, accounts and other classes too numerous to specify, form an invaluable source of information, not only for the political and military, but also for the social, industrial and agricultural history of the times.

The late Hugh Hastings while Historian of the State of New York intended to publish in one volume a few of the most important of these papers, but as the work progressed, more and more selections were added, so that at the time of his retirement from office in 1907, a large part of the manuscripts dated between 1738 and 1762 had been set up in print. Only a comparatively few between 1760 and 1762 had been included. Those subsequent to 1762 had not been touched.

When Mr Hastings's successor, Mr Paltsits, took office in 1907, he determined, because of certain errata in the proofs, to postpone the publication of these papers. In 1911 the fire in the State Capitol, where the manuscripts were stored, rendered so many of them illegible that it was fortunate that the printer's proof for many of them was in existence.

After the State Archivist, Mr van Laer, had completed the arduous task of getting the scorched and water-soaked papers

into condition, Mr J. A. Holden, who was the successor of Mr Paltsits as State Historian and also the Chief of the Division of History of the State Education Department, began the work of comparing the proofs with the manuscripts.

This work was necessarily slow. The manuscripts had in many cases been wholly destroyed, or were almost illegible, if not entirely so. Wherever possible, copies were obtained from libraries, historical societies and private individuals in this country and abroad. These researches brought to light new papers of Johnson, and of these copies were obtained and are printed in this collection. The location of these is indicated by footnotes.

In addition to this work numerous illustrations have been obtained and Mr Holden made arrangements with Mr Richard J. Brown, formerly county engineer and surveyor of Warren county, who was thoroughly acquainted with the topography and landmarks of the Adirondack region, and with Professor Louis Mitchell of the engineering department of Syracuse University, to prepare maps showing, as far as might be possible, the military roads followed by Sir William Johnson in his campaigns, the regions in which he was active and other information of use to historians.

This work had progressed in the manuscripts to approximately 1755 when Mr Holden retired from office in 1916. It was deemed advisable by his successor to go ahead with the publication of the material which he had prepared and to add to it the publication of the manuscripts from 1755 to 1774, the date of Johnson's death, and those from 1774 to 1808 that were in the collection.

In certain cases where the manuscripts, for which Mr Hastings had prepared proofs, have been absolutely destroyed or rendered undecipherable, and for which no copies can be found in this country or abroad for purposes of comparison, it has been thought advisable to use the proofs. As the latter are the only known copies of the material in existence it is only in this form that it can be given to historical scholars. In all such cases a

footnote calls attention to the fact that the manuscript has been destroyed and that it has therefore been impossible to verify the proof in comparison with the original for the reasons stated.

This was furthermore determined upon because the errata found in the proofs that Mr Paltsits compared with the original manuscripts were generally those of typography and not of substance. That is, they were not errors that altered the meaning of the document. In the vast majority of cases it was largely a question of capitalization and abbreviation. Johnson and his contemporaries in their letters sprinkled capitals through rather freely, sometimes even in the middle of a word. Many of these Mr Hastings had caused to be changed to lower case and in the abbreviations for "the," "which" and other words he had printed them as "ye," "wch," and so on instead of superimposing the "e" and the "ch". So it may be stated that on the whole these proofs, which we use because we can not get anything else, represent a very fairly accurate transcript of the original so far as substance is concerned.

In many cases Mr Hastings, following certain ideas of his own, had omitted the publication of some of the manuscripts. These, for the sake of completeness, we have inserted in their proper places. When we have neither copies for them nor the originals, we have put in an appropriate title, noted the fact of their entire loss and referred to Dr Day's *Calendar* for a brief description of their contents and to any other work where their substance can be obtained. Manuscripts which were at one time in existence but not found when the *Calendar* was made are so indicated.

Many of the Johnson papers were published in Dr E. B. O'Callaghan's *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of New York* and the *Documentary History of New York*.¹ From the point of view of completeness and convenience it would seem to be highly desirable to reprint them in this collection,

¹ See the indexes of these works under "Johnson, Sir William" and under "Letters — from Sir William Johnson" to various persons.

but for the most potent reasons of economy we have had to content ourselves with inserting a title and referring to them in the appropriate place as already printed. In some cases we have departed from this rule because of the extreme importance of the document, but in a footnote have called attention to the fact that the paper may be found printed elsewhere.

References which are made to the "Colonial" or "Historical Manuscripts" are to the collection in the New York State Library. Though some of this collection was burned, a good deal of it is still intact. The "Council Minutes" manuscripts referred to are in the same library. Portions of these were burned, but in certain instances proof set up for them may be consulted in the State Historian's office. Other references, such as "Massachusetts Archives," are a sufficient indication of the location of the manuscripts.

In certain cases footnotes have been used to call to the attention of the user of this collection certain information of interest which the editors have come across while doing their work. No attempt, however, has been made to do this sort of thing exhaustively, for we regard such as the work of the students or investigators rather than the editors of texts. Were the latter to attempt to do this for a collection such as this, the work would run into scores of volumes and not be completed in a lifetime.

The demands of historical scholars are so wide and varied that we have deemed it good policy while we were engaged upon the work to make it complete. This may seem to some to have resulted in the inclusion of much that is of trivial or of no importance. While this may be true to a certain extent, we felt that it was better to err on this side than to put forth an incomplete collection from which the investigator would have to turn to search in the manuscripts for something which we had omitted — a search which would frequently involve travel for a long distance at great expense. Again bills or accounts which may seem unimportant to the general reader or to the historian, whose

only interest is in political narrative, are of utmost importance to the student of economic history.

After careful consideration of the various methods which might be used in the arrangement of the letters and documents of this collection, which has been gathered from so many sources and at such widely separated intervals of time, it was decided that the least confusing method would be that by which they were placed in the order of the dates which appear on them. The reader will of course perceive that some of them were not received by Johnson until long after they were written and that letters or documents immediately preceding or following must be read with this fact in mind. Letters or documents which have been begun under one date and continued on subsequent dates have been arranged according to the first date, except where under certain conditions they have come to the attention of the editors very late and have had to be inserted according to the last date thereon appearing.

Letters not signed and not carrying footnotes or captions indicating otherwise are from Johnson. Those bearing the caption "From " with a name following are addressed to Johnson unless otherwise indicated.

Anyone using this collection will find the use of Dr Richard E. Day's *Calendar of the Sir William Johnson Manuscripts* published by the New York State Library in 1909 indispensable. For the scholar or even casual student interested in Johnson it is scarcely necessary to enumerate the biographies or other works treating of his career. Any bibliography of American or New York State history will afford more information than we can take the space for. Lives by Stone, Griffis and Buell may be used as starting points.

Preceding the body of the work there are placed a "History of the Manuscripts" by Wilmer R. Leech, an "Itinerary for Sir William Johnson" (1715-74) by Dr Richard E. Day and a "Genealogy of the Johnson Family" by James A. Holden,

without the labors of all of whom this work could not have appeared for several years to come.

The first three volumes which are to appear now cover from 1738 to 1762. Other volumes covering the period from 1763 to 1774, and even later, will be prepared and published as rapidly as funds are made available.

JAMES SULLIVAN

*Director, Division of Archives
and History, and State Historian*

HISTORY OF THE MANUSCRIPTS

Prior to March 29, 1911, when the fire in the State Capitol destroyed a large portion of the New York State Library, there were in the collection of Johnson papers about 6550 pieces contained in 26 volumes.¹ The documents were mounted on large sheets and bound in bulky folio volumes. No attempt had been made to repair the manuscripts generally, but in exceptional cases tissue paper had been pasted to protect the frail pieces.

The first index to this collection was authorized by a joint resolution of the Legislature, April 5, 1856. It was completed in 1866, the result of the combined work of Daniel Johnson Pratt, assistant secretary of the Board of Regents, and Dr Henry Augustus Homes, State Librarian.² This list was in manuscript and was bound into a volume in 1870.³ The calendar made available for the first time the mass of material of such vital interest to the colonial history of North America.

The first calendar to be printed was prepared by Dr Richard E. Day,⁴ which contains the only record in existence of many of the papers which were destroyed by the fire.

The Johnson manuscripts in the state archives were collected from the following sources:

In April 1801, seven bundles of Johnson papers, with a list of contents of each bundle, were deposited with the Secretary of State.⁵ These are mentioned by John Van Ness Yates, who

¹ *Calendar of Johnson Manuscripts*, Day.

² Report of State Library, 1866, p. 7.

³ *Annotated List of Mss. N. Y. State Library* (Albany 1889) p. 212.

⁴ *Calendar of Sir William Johnson Mss. in N. Y. State Library* by R. E. Day (Albany 1909).

⁵ *Doc. Hist. of State of N. Y.*, O'Callaghan, 2:1008. Here is also given a list of the manuscripts missing from the collection in 1849. With the exception of Journals of Indian proceedings and the missing manuscripts, these papers are printed, *Doc. Hist. of N. Y.*, idem.

as Secretary of State prepared a manuscript volume in 1818 entitled *Annalium Thesaurus*. Yates informs us that there were "three large packets in this office containing Sir William Johnson's papers," and further adds that "from the prominent & responsible station he held under the Colonial Government, from his frequent agency in the management of treaties with the Indians, his papers were distinguished from many others by their importance and value."¹

No Johnson manuscripts were acquired by the State Library until 1850, when the largest number of pieces, which were greatest in importance to the entire collection, were presented to the State Library by John Tayler Cooper,² who had inherited them from his grandfather, John Tayler, the patriot. When the effects of Sir John Johnson were confiscated and sold during the Revolution, these papers, with other property, were purchased at auction by Tayler. The state archives contain no record of the sale.³ This collection with some of those papers deposited with the Secretary of State in 1801, was mounted and bound into 22 volumes under the direction of Dr O'Callaghan during the years 1850-55.

In 1863 the Legislature appropriated the sum of \$750 for the use of the trustees of the State Library "to be expended for the purchase of manuscripts and correspondence of Sir William Johnson and others, to be deposited and preserved in the State Library."⁴ This referred to a collection then in the

p. 545-1007. A careful examination of the dates of the manuscripts listed by O'Callaghan as missing in 1849 has led the editors to believe that many of those so enumerated were thought to be missing because some copyist got the dates wrong. This matter is covered in the introduction to volume II of these *Papers*.

¹ See also *Catalog of Records of Office of Secretary of State, January 1820*, in *Journal of Senate*, 43d session (Albany 1820) p. 40.

² Report of Trustees of State Library, January 15, 1850, p. 7.

³ For purchase of other property, see *Life of Johnson*, Stone, 2; 507; also *New York in the Revolution*, 2:250.

⁴ Laws of 1863, chap. 210, p. 379.

possession of William L. Stone, jr, who had had it since the death of his father. After years of search, William L. Stone, sr, "procured from the Johnson family in England, and from various other sources, a large portion of Sir William's manuscripts."¹ This collection did not prove so full as was expected by the trustees of the Library and only \$500 was paid for it. It was, however, a valuable complement to the Johnson papers already in the State Library.² When mounted and bound, this addition made up what was known as volumes 23, 24 and 25, and covered about the same period as those in the 22 preceding volumes.

In 1866 some manuscripts were purchased by the State Library from Henry Stevens, who had obtained them at a sale of public record papers in London. They were chiefly documents relating to the disbursements of the Indian department under the superintendency of Sir William and later under Guy Johnson. Many were warrants with annexed accounts which had been sent to the commander in chief at New York. This purchase composed what was known as volume 26, the last volume of the series.³

These volumes did not include Wraxall's "Abridgment of the Records of Indian Affairs, 1678-1751," one volume; "Records of the Indian Agency, 1757-59," one volume; "Prideaux and Johnson Orderly Book — Siege of Fort Niagara, 1759," one volume; and "Diary of Sir William Johnson, 1759 and 1761," one volume, all of which perished in the fire of 1911, though all but the second are represented by copies.

The condition of the 26 volumes which constituted the main collection of Johnson manuscripts in the State Library has been thus described: "Ten volumes are in fair condition, twelve volumes are in very poor or fragmentary shape and four

¹ *Life of Johnson*, Stone, p. VI.

² Report of the State Library, 1864, p. 6.

³ *Calendar of Johnson Manuscripts*, Day, p. 6.

volumes are wanting.”¹ Unfortunately, however, some of the volumes listed as in “fair” condition are really in “poor” condition, and the others are not in shape even to be used for reference. Except for such as are here presented, the Johnson papers in this country may be said to have practically perished.²

In trying to replace some of the lost material by obtaining copies of such of it as existed in this country and abroad new papers were discovered and added to the collection either in manuscript or photostat form.

¹ *Report of the Education Department*, 1912, p. 1002.

² *Day, Calendar*, p. 6; *Journal of the New York Assembly*, 23d Session (1800) p. 203-4.

CHRONOLOGY AND ITINERARY FOR SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON, 1715-1774

1715	Born in Smithtown, County Meath, Ireland.
1737?	Came to Boston.
1738	Came to Warrensburg (Warrensbush, south of the Mohawk river).
1739 (Apr.?)	Bought land north of the Mohawk river.
	Married Catharine Weissenburg (?)
1742 or 1743	Moved north of the Mohawk river and built a house at Mount Johnson.
1745 Apr.	Made a justice of the peace.
1746 Apr. 9 (about)	Selected to supply the Oswego-garrison.
Aug. 8	Attended an Indian council at Albany.
Aug. 27	Authorized to supply Indian war parties.
Aug. 28	Appointed colonel of the warriors of the Six Nations and of white volunteers.
Nov. 20 (about)	In New York City.
1747 Apr. 3	Sent a war party to Crown Point.
Apr. 25	Addressed Indian delegations.
July 2	Ordered to build a fort at Canajoharie.
July 16	Attended a conference at Albany between Governor Clinton and Mohawks.
Aug. 19	At Albany.
Aug. 28	Led an expedition from Mount Johnson toward Crown Point.
Sept. 10 (about)	Returned to Mount Johnson.

1747	Sept. 18	At Albany.
	Sept. 19	Left for New York City.
	Oct. 3, 6, 9	Examined by the provincial council. ¹
	Oct. 13	Examined by Cadwallader Colden on the liquor traffic in the Mohawk country.
	Oct. 20 (about)	At Albany.
1748	Feb. 17	In New York City.
	Feb. 18	Made colonel of fourteen companies of militia (foot).
	Mar. 12	At Albany.
	Mar. 15	At Mount Johnson.
	Mar. 20	Met the two Mohawk Castles.
	Apr. 4-9	At Albany.
	Apr. 11	Left Mount Johnson for Onondaga.
	Apr. 24-26	Held a council at Onondaga.
	May 11	Returned to Mount Johnson.
	June 11	At Albany.
	July 23-27	Attended a council at Albany.
	Aug. 31-Sept. 16	At Albany.
	Nov. 8	In New York City.
1749	(Apr.?)	Building a stone house at Mount John- son (later called Fort Johnson).
	July (12?)	In New York City.
	Aug. 2	Governor Clinton ordered delivery to him of all papers of the department of Indian affairs.
	Aug. 19	In Albany.
	Nov. 22	In New York City.
1750	Jan.	Moves into his new stone house.

¹ In cases like this where the name of the place is not given it is understood to be at the place last mentioned in the items immediately preceding.

- 1750 Feb. 2 Met the two Mohawk Castles at Mount Johnson.
(July?) Entertained Professor Peter Kalm, the Swedish naturalist.
Dec. 4 (about) Conferred with Mohawk chiefs.
- 1751 Apr. 24 Petitioned for a license to purchase 130,000 acres on the Charlotte river.
May 16 Petitioned for a license to purchase Onondaga lake and adjoining land.
June (18?) In New York City.
July 5 Resigned the office of Indian agent at a conference between the Governor and Indians at Albany.
July 10 Sworn in as a member of the provincial council.
- 1752 May 8 In New York City.
Nov. 5 In New York City.
- 1753 May 25 Entertained Gideon Hawley at Mount Johnson.
June 12-16 Attended a conference with Mohawks in New York City.
June 15-23 Attended the provincial council.
June 29-July 2 Attended the provincial council at Jamaica, L. I.
July 26-27 Met the Mohawks at Mount Johnson.
Aug. 11-14 Entertained Conrad Weiser.
Sept. 8-10 Held a conference with the Six Nations at Onondaga.
Sept. 12 (about) Visited Oswego.
Sept. 21 Returned to Mount Johnson.
Oct. 31 Bought one-sixth of the Stevens Patent of Governor Clinton.
- 1754 Feb. 18 Attended the provincial council in New York City.

- 1754 June 6 Issued orders at Mount Johnson to militia to be ready to repel threatened French attack.
- June 19-July 11 Took part in the congress of seven colonies at Albany.
- Aug. 30 Issued orders at Mount Johnson to Schenectady militia to guard the town.
- 1755 Feb. 7 Met Mohawks and Canajoharies.
- Feb. (19?) Reached New York City.
- Feb. 24 Nominated by Governor Shirley for commander of a Crown Point expedition.
- Feb. 28 Attended the provincial council.
- Mar. 12 Attended the provincial council.
- Mar. 18 or 19 Left New York City.
- Apr. 7 Set out from Mount Johnson for Alexandria, Va.
- Apr. 14 Made at Alexandria superintendent of Indian affairs and commander of the Crown Point expedition.
- Apr. 15 Commissioned by General Braddock.
- Apr. 16 Commissioned major general by Governors Shirley and DeLancey.
- Apr. 23-May 5 In New York City.
- May 8 At Albany.
- May 10 At Mount Johnson.
- May 12 Conferred with Onondagas.
- May 15-16 Conferred with Mohawks.
- May 24-29 In Albany.
- June 5 Held a conference at the Canajoharie Castle.
- June 9 Met Caghnawagas at Albany.
- June 15 Met Mohawks at Mount Johnson.
- June 21-July 4 Held a conference with nine Indian nations.

- 1755 July 8-Aug. 9 At Albany.
July 17, 27 Ordered General Phineas Lyman to
march to the Great Carrying Place
(near Lake George).
Aug. 9 Set out for the Great Carrying Place.
Aug. 14 Arrived at the Great Carrying Place.
Aug. 15 His council of war asked a reinforcement
of 1000 men from Massachusetts
and Connecticut.
Aug. 18 The building of a fort at the
Carrying Place determined on.
Aug. 26 Left the Great Carrying Place.
Aug. 28 Arrived at Lake Saint Sacrement.
Sept. 1 Announced that the lake had been
named Lake George.
Sept. 3 Complained to the lords of trade of
Governor Shirley's interference.
Announced that a fort was being built
at the lake.
Sept. 8 Fought the battle of Lake George.
Sept. 21 Named the fort at the Carrying Place
Fort Edward.
Sept. 29 Issued orders for building a new fort at
Lake George.
Nov. 8 Gave the name William Henry to the
fort at Lake George.
Nov. 9 Offered resignation of his military
command to Governor Shirley.
Nov. 15 His resignation declined.
Nov. 22 Advised by a council of war not to pro-
ceed against the enemy.
Nov. 27 The dignity of baronet conferred on
him.
Left Lake George.
Nov. 28 Left Fort Edward.

1755 Nov. 30	At Stillwater.
Dec. 1	Arrived at Albany.
Dec. 2	Resigned his command in a letter to the governors.
Dec. 4	Held a conference with Indians and left Albany.
Dec. 6	At Fort Johnson.
Dec. 8	Held a conference with Indians.
Dec. 23	At Albany.
Dec. 24	Left Albany.
Dec. 30	Reached New York City amid public rejoicings.
1756 Jan. 3	Declined Shirley's commission for Indian affairs.
Jan. 9	Attended the provincial council.
Jan. 17	Asked a special royal commission.
Jan. (21?)	Left New York City.
Jan. 27-30	At Albany.
Feb. 1	The bestowal of his title known in Albany.
Feb. 2-28	Held conferences with Indians at Fort Johnson.
Feb. 17	Commission as colonel, sole agent and superintendent of the Six Nations and other northern Indians given.
Mar 5-May 26	Held conferences with Indians.
Mar. 15	At Albany.
Mar. 17	At the German Flats.
Mar. (19?)	At Fort Johnson.
Mar. (26?)	Left Fort Johnson with militia.
Mar. (28?)	At Fort Williams.
Apr. (1?)	At Fort Johnson.
Apr. 7	In conference with Mohawks.
Apr. 16	Left Fort Johnson.
Apr. 18	At the German Flats.

1756 Apr. 21	At Fort Johnson.
May 5	Marched to German Flats(?)
June 3	Set out for Onondaga from Fort Johnson.
June 14-15	Had meetings at Oneida with Indians.
June 18	Reached Onondaga.
June 19-July 2	Conducted a council.
July 3	Left Onondaga.
July 7	Returned to Fort Johnson.
July 9-12	Conferred with Indians.
July 17-19	At Albany.
July 19	Attended a meeting of British officers and Indians.
July 22-Aug. 17	Had meetings with Indians at Fort Johnson.
Aug. 19-20	At Albany.
Aug. 20-23	Marched to the German Flats.
Aug. 22	At Canajoharie.
Aug. 24-Sept. 3	Had meetings with Indians at the German Flats.
Sept. (3?)	Left the German Flats.
Sept. 9-17	Had meetings with Indians at Fort Johnson.
Oct. 17	Marched with an Indian party to join the army at Fort Edward.
Nov. 2	Returned from Fort Edward to Fort Johnson.
Nov. 6	Met Lord Loudoun and Edmund Atkin at Albany.
Nov. 17-23	Had conferences with the Six Nations at Fort Johnson.
Nov. 24	Sent George Croghan on a mission to Pennsylvania Indians.
1757 Mar. 21	Marched to relieve Fort William Henry.

1757	Mar. 24-26	At Fort Edward.
	Mar. 27-30	At Fort Johnson.
	Apr. (1?) -9	At Burnets Field.
	Apr. 14-23	Had Conferences at Fort Johnson with Susquehanna Indians.
	May 13	Sent Indian scouts to Lake Champlain.
	June 10-20	Conferred with the Six Nations.
	July 31	Met Cherokee deputies.
	Aug. 6-17	At Fort Edward with militia.
	Aug. 20	Left Albany for Fort Johnson.
	Aug. 31-Sept. 8	In Albany.
	Sept. 12-20	Had meetings with Indians at Fort Johnson.
	Sept. 25-Oct. 4	At Albany.
1758	Mar.	Marched to German Flats.
	Mar. 25	Met Senecas at Fort Johnson.
	Apr. 12	Met Stockbridge Indians.
	Apr. 15-17	At Canajoharie.
	Apr. 26	Received at Fort Johnson an invitation to attend the Onondaga conference.
	May 4-13	At Canajoharie.
	May 13	At Fort Johnson.
	May 20	At Albany.
	June 4-7	At Albany.
	June 29	Left Fort Johnson for Lake George.
	July 6	At Fort Edward.
	July 8-9	At Ticonderoga with 440 Indians.
	July 21	Sent a message to the Delawares on the Ohio.
	July 22-Aug. 1	Framed at Fort Johnson a peace treaty between the Six Nations and south- ern Indians.
	Aug. 3 (about)	At the German Flats.
	Nov. 10	At Albany.
	Nov. 18	At Fort Johnson in conference with Indians.

1759 Jan. 18-19	At Canajoharie in conference with Mohawks and Senecas.
Feb. 5-6	At Fort Johnson in conference with Cayugas and Mohawks.
Feb. 12	Met Mohawks at Canajoharie.
Apr. 4-22	Conferred with Six Nations at Canajoharie.
May 4	Met General Amherst at Schenectady.
May 16	At Albany.
May 17	At Fort Johnson. Recommended the reduction of Niagara to the lords of trade.
June 21	At Oneida lake with the army.
June 23	At Three Rivers.
June 24-25	At Great Falls.
June 26	At Oswego Falls.
June 27-30	At Oswego.
July 1	At Osenodus (Sodus).
July 2-3	At Nidenindequeat (Irondequoit).
July 4	At Prideaux bay.
July 5	At Johnson's creek.
July 7-Aug. 4	At Niagara.
July 20	Succeeded General Prideaux.
July 24	Defeated a French and Indian force.
July 25	Fort Niagara surrendered to him.
Aug. 7-Sept. 3	At Oswego.
Sept. 3	At Little Sodus.
Sept. 4-Oct. 14	At Oswego.
Oct. 20 (about)	At Fort Johnson.
Dec. 2	Met General Amherst at Albany.
Dec. 13	The king's order to inquire into the Delawares' complaints transmitted to him.
1760 Feb. 13-14	Met deputies from the Six Nations at Fort Johnson.

1760 Mar. 20	Met Lower Mohawks.
May 3	At Canajoharie.
July 23	Joined General Amherst at Oswego with Indian contingent.
Aug. 10	Left Oswego.
Aug. 25	At the taking of Fort Lévis.
Aug. (25?)	Entered into negotiations with nine nations of Canada.
Sept. 1	Visited Asquesaskua.
Sept. 6	Reached Longueuil.
Sept. 8	At Montreal.
Oct. 10	At Albany.
Oct. 11	At Fort Johnson.
1761 Jan. 6	Applied for a patent for Canajoharie land.
Feb. 17	At Canajoharie Castle.
Mar. 11	Commissioned superintendent of Indian affairs by George III.
Mar. 15	Met the Mohawks at Fort Johnson.
Mar. 28	Gave 50 acres of land to the Johns- town church.
July 1	Met Mohawks at Fort Johnson.
July 5	Set out for Detroit.
July 6-7	At the German Flats.
July 8	At Oriske fields.
July 9-11	At Fort Stanwix.
July 11	At Fort Bull.
July 13	At Canada creek.
July 15	At the Royal blockhouse.
July 16	Conferred with Oneidas near the Old Castle.
July 16-17	At Fort Brewerton.
July 17	At Three Rivers.
July 18	At Oswego Falls.
July 19-21	At Oswego; had conferences with Indians.

1761	July 24-Aug. 17	At Fort Niagara.
	July 28	Met Chippewas.
	Aug. 1	Met Wyandots.
	Aug. 8-9	Met Senecas.
	Aug. 11	Met Senecas.
	Aug. 17	At Little Niagara.
	Aug. 18	At Niagara Falls.
	Aug. 19	Embarked at Little Niagara.
	Sept. 3-17	At Detroit.
	Sept. 6	Met Ottawas.
	Sept. 9-15	In conference with several nations.
	Sept. 17-18	At Huron Castle.
	Sept. 20	At Cedar Point (Ohio).
	Sept. 21	At Sandusky carrying place.
	Sept. 30-Oct. 1	At Presque Isle (Erie).
	Oct. 5	At Little Niagara.
	Oct. 5-8	At Fort Niagara.
	Oct. 15	At Prideaux bay.
	Oct. 18-19	At Oswego.
	Oct. 20	At Oswego Falls.
	Oct. 23	At Fort Brewerton.
	Oct. 24	At the Royal blockhouse.
	Oct. 26-28	At Fort Stanwix.
	Oct. 28	At Fort Schuyler.
	Oct. 29	At Canajoharie.
	Oct. 30 or 31	Reached Fort Johnson.
1762	Jan. 28	Met Canajoharies and other Indians
	Feb. 1-8 (about)	Visited by Onondagas, Oneidas, Tuscaroras and Mohawks.
	Mar. before the 30th	Removed to Johnson Hall (later Johnstown).
	Apr. 21-28	In conference with the Six Nations at Johnson Hall.
	May 21	At Albany.
	May 23	At the German Flats.
	May 24	At Fort Johnson or Johnson Hall.

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| 1762 | June 13 | Arrived at Easton, Pa. |
| | June 18-28 | Examined accusations of Delawares against proprietaries. |
| | July 3-13 | In New York City. |
| | July 7 | Attended the provincial council. |
| | July | At Johnson Hall. |
| | July 31 | Ordered troops to the German Flats. |
| | Aug. 1 | At Canajoharie. |
| | Aug. 4 | At Johnson Hall. |
| | Nov. 24 | At Canajoharie, met Indians. |
| 1763 | Mar. 10 | At Canajoharie, in proceedings touching Indian lands. |
| | Mar. 23 | At Fort Johnson, considered Mohawk claims. |
| | Mar. 25 | At Johnson Hall, met Mohawks. |
| | Apr. 3 | Concluded a treaty of peace with Senecas. |
| | Apr. 4, 18 | Sought through the lords of trade a patent to Canajoharie land. |
| | May 17 | Wrote to Governor Fitch of Connecticut, opposing Wyoming settlement. |
| | May 21 | Visited by 139 sachems and warriors. |
| | May 26-27 | Conferred with the Six Nations. |
| | July 15 (about) | Held a council with Indians at the German Flats. |
| | Sept. 7-14 | Held a council with Indians at Johnson Hall. |
| | Nov. 18 | Advocated the establishment of a boundary between settlers and Indians. |
| 1764 | Jan. 20 | Advised the abolition of Jesuit missions. |
| | Feb. 9 | Sent a war party against Canestio. |
| | Apr. 3 | Framed a preliminary treaty with Senecas. |
| | Apr. 28 | Sent an Indian party to cooperate with Colonel Bradstreet. |

1764	June 18	At the German Flats.
	June 26-July 3	At Oswego.
	July 8-Aug. 6	At Niagara.
	July 9	Met Ottawas of Michilimackinac.
	July 10	Met Onondagas and other Indians.
	July 11	Met Ottawas, Chippewas and other Indians.
	July 12	Conferred with the Six Nations and western Indians.
	July 13-14	Met Ottawas, Chippewas and Nipissings.
	July 17-18	Made a treaty with Hurons living near Detroit.
	July 17	Met Menominees.
	Aug. 1	Met Chenussios.
	Aug. 6	Concluded a treaty with Chenussios, who made an important cession.
		Sailed for Oswego.
	Aug. 19	Reached Johnson Hall.
	Sept. 20	Received a protest from Mohawks concerning the Kayaderosseras tract.
	Dec. 11, 18	Denounced opposition to taxation of the colonies.
1765	Apr. 29-May 22	Had conferences with the Six Nations and Delawares.
	May 15	George Croghan set out by his orders for the Illinois country.
	July 4-14	Had conferences with Ohio Indians.
	Sept. 10, 12, 13, 17, 18, 28, 30	Upheld the stamp act.
	Oct. 9	Upheld royal prerogative.
	Nov. 6, 22, 27, 29	Censured republican excesses.
1766	Jan. 8, 23, 30	Sustained the British connection.
	May	Addressed a memorial to the king reciting his services, losses and claims.

- 1766 May 23 Constituted Worshipful Master of St Patrick's Lodge F. & A. M. No. 4 by George Harrison, provincial grand master.
- July 10 Commended to the British government the scheme to colonize the Illinois country.
- July 14 At the German Flats.
- July 23-31 At Oswego, holding a congress with Pontiac and other western chiefs.
- Aug. 5 Reached Johnson Hall.
- Aug. 23 Installed as master of St Patrick's Lodge, organized at Johnson Hall, its meeting place.
- Sept. 1 Signed by-laws of the lodge.
- Oct. 4 (about) Purchased 40,000 acres of land of the Oneidas.
- 1767 Mar. Invited the Six Nations to a meeting.
- May 10 (about) Held a congress with the Six Nations at the German Flats.
- May 15 (about) At Fort Johnson.
- June 26 The lords of trade approved his Canajoharie grant.
- Aug. 21 (about) Set out for the Saratoga springs.
- Sept. 4 At Johnson Hall.
- Sept. 22 (about) Set out for the Onondaga country.
- Oct. before the
20th At Johnson Hall.
- Dec. 29 Received Cherokee deputies.
- 1768 (Feb.? 22) Made brigadier general of militia of the northern district.
- Mar. 4-12 Held a congress with the Six Nations, Canadian Indians and Cherokees.
- Apr. 24 Set out for New London.
- Apr. 25 At Schenectady.
- May 15 At New London.

1768	June 15	At Fishers island.
	July before the 20th	Returned to Johnson Hall.
	Aug. 5 (about)	Settled the Kayaderosseras dispute.
	Sept. 9	To oppose extension of Pennsylvania northward of 43d degree.
	Sept. 15	Left Johnson Hall.
	Sept. 19	Reached Fort Stanwix.
	Sept. 30	Adjusted the boundaries between the Mohawks and the Stockbridge Indians.
	Oct. 24-Nov. 5	Established a boundary between In- dian lands and white settlements.
	Nov. 6	Left Fort Stanwix.
	Nov. 9	Reached Johnson Hall.
1769	Jan. 3	Accepted an election to the American Philosophical Society.
	Apr. 12	By dispensation at Johnson Hall raised to the Sublime Degree of Perfection, Scottish Rite.
	May 4	Announced that he had been elected master of Ineffable Lodge A. A. S. R. of Albany.
	June	The Canajoharie grant confirmed to him.
	June 26	Set out on a tour of the Indian country.
	July 10	Reached Onondaga.
	July 12	Held a congress.
	July	Met Cayugas, at Cayuga.
		Met Senecas, at Seneca.
	Aug. 7	Returned to Johnson Hall.
	Dec. 27	St Patrick's Lodge and Ineffable A. A. S. R. went to church, St John's Day, Johnson and Dr Stringer accompanying as the two grand inspectors.

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| 1770 Mar. 20 | Made trustee of Queen's (now Rutgers) College. |
| Mar. 22 | Attempted to obtain the release of Indian goods by the Sons of Liberty. |
| Mar. 23 | Suggested a department for forest preservation. |
| May 8 | His Indian deed of 1751 on the Charlotte river confirmed. |
| June 17 | Gave a chapel to the Indians at Canajoharie. |
| July 15 | Set out for the German Flats. |
| July 16-23 | Held a congress with the Six Nations, Canadian Indians and Cherokees at the German Flats. |
| July 23 | Returned to Johnson Hall. |
| Dec. 6 | Declined reelection as master of St Patrick's Lodge and was succeeded by Guy Johnson. |
| 1771 Feb. | Prepared to build a new church at Johnstown. |
| July 4 | Favored the creation of an American bishop. |
| July 14-19 | Held a conference with the Six Nations at Johnson Hall. |
| Nov. 18 | Promised encouragement of an academy at Schenectady. |
| 1772 Jan. 29 | Divided the proposed Tryon county into five districts. |
| July 14-30 | Visited by Governor Tryon. |
| July 28-Aug. 1 | Held a congress with the Canajoharie and other Indians at Johnson Hall. |
| July 29 | The provincial council met at Johnson Hall. |
| (Aug.?) | Made major general of the northern department. |
| Oct. 20 (about) | Held a congress with the Six Nations. |

- 1773 Feb. 11 Attended for the last time a meeting
at St Patrick's Lodge.
- Apr. 7-10 Held a congress with the Six Nations.
- July-Aug. At New London and on Long Island.
- Nov. Made a treaty with the Six Nations
at Johnson Hall.
- Dec. 20 Present at proceedings of the Mohawks
and a committee of the corporation
of Albany at the Lower Castle.
- Dec. 21-22 At Johnson Hall, attending proceed-
ings of Mohawks and the Albany
committee.
- 1774 Jan. 27 Made his last will.
- Apr. 17 Recommended Guy Johnson to the
Earl of Dartmouth for his successor.
- Apr. 15-28 In proceedings with the Six Nations.
- May 18-21 Entertained Robert Hare, of Phila-
delphia.
- May 27 Condemned in a letter "the refractory
Boston people."
- June 19 Visited by Onondagas.
- July 8-11 Held a congress with the Six Nations.
- July 11 Died.
- July 13 Buried at Johnstown.

GENEALOGY OF THE JOHNSON FAMILY

This genealogy is based upon the study by the late Major General J. Watts De Peyster which appeared originally in *The Orderly Book of Sir John Johnson*,¹ edited and published by the late William L. Stone, the leading biographer of Sir William Johnson. For his authorities, General De Peyster relied chiefly on information furnished him by the then baronet, Sir William George Johnson, Burke's *Peerage and Baronetage of Great Britain*, Sabine's *Loyalists of the American Revolution* and Stone's *Life and Times of Sir William Johnson*.

For obvious reasons the editors of this work have been unable to verify all of these data, as this would have involved a visit to England and Ireland, an examination of parish records at home and abroad, and an inspection of family papers.

They have had to rely therefore upon a comparison with the latest Burke's *Peerage*, and such other sources as were at their command. They have been fortunate, too, in having the matter looked over by the present baronet, Sir Gordon Johnson of Montreal, Canada.

To this study have been added data procured from correspondence with the family and others, and from modern works on the peerage in the New York State Library, which bring the sketch down to date, so far as we now know.

The lineage of Sir William Johnson is as follows: Thomas McShane the son of John O'Neill (said to have descended from the Royal (Irish) family of Dungannon, County Tyrone), married Frances, daughter of Thomas Fay of Derrynagare, Westmeath, Ireland. They had a son William McShane (anglicised to William Johnson) who married Anna, the

¹ Published by Joel Munsell's Sons, Albany, 1882, p. i-x.

daughter of James Fitz Simmons of Tullinally, Westmeath.¹ They had a son, Christopher Johnson, who removed to Smithtown, County Meath, and was married to Anne, daughter of Michael Warren, of Warrenstown, County Meath, and sister of Vice Admiral Sir Peter Warren, K. B., who was patron and backer of Sir William in America, and who gained a reputation in the Louisburg expedition in 1745. To Christopher (died 1763) and Anne Johnson (died January 26, 1744) were born, WILLIAM, the subject of this sketch, Peter Warren Johnson,² of Damartown, County Meath, John, of Warrenstown, County Meath, and five daughters.

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON, 1st baronet, was born in 1715, at Smithtown,³ County Meath, Ireland, and subsequently was taken by his maternal uncle, Admiral Sir Peter Warren, K. B., to North America,⁴ where he rose to the rank of major general of the provincial militia, April 16, 1755, and distin-

¹ The O'Neill line of descent only begins to appear in the works on heraldry of the twentieth century, but on February 12, 1774, Peter Warren Johnson had registered this pedigree in the Office of Arms of Dublin Castle and was allowed to use the arms of the O'Neills of Tyrone. It does not appear in the 1842 edition of Burke and first makes its appearance in the 1912 edition of that work. In *The Baronetage of England* by E. Kimber and R. Johnson, London, 1771, for example, it is stated only, "that Sir William Johnson is descended from a good family in the kingdom of Ireland (III, p. 142)." One does not necessarily preclude the other, of course, but it is a problem for genealogists.

² In the Johnson Papers he is known as Warren only. In the same papers there is also mention of the son named John. In his will Johnson mentions four sisters by their married names: Dease; Sterling (Bridget); Plunket (Frances); and Fitzsimons (Ellis). There was another sister Mrs. Farrell who died before Johnson. On these collaterals see *New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*, October, 1918, p. 389.

³ Sometimes spelled Smithstown.

⁴ In 1737, winter, or 1738, early spring.

guished himself as a military commander during the French and Indian War (1754-63), and as a negotiator with Indian tribes. He was created a baronet November 27, 1755. In 1756 he received his commission as "Colonel, Agent and Sole Superintendent of all the affairs of the Six Nations and other Northern Indians," with no subordination but to the Earl of Loudoun.¹ He died July 11, 1774, of chronic malignant dysentery, aged 59, at his seat, Johnson Hall, Tryon county, New York, leaving by Catherine Wisenberg² [Weissenberg?] (died 1759) his wife:

- I John, his heir, born in 1742, 2d baronet (see below).
- II Anne, married to Col. Daniel Claus,³ of North America, and died about 1798.

¹ The Earl of Loudoun was appointed commander in chief of the forces in America shortly after Johnson's commission was renewed. The Indian superintendent was made subject to orders from the commander in chief.

² Burke's *Peerage*, ed. 1915, says "married 1739, Mary daughter of John de Wissenbergh of Montreal." This is probably not verifiable, as there is considerable uncertainty among Johnson's biographers as to his wife, her name and parentage. In his will he refers to "his beloved wife Catherine" which would seem to settle the name as not being "Mary." Jephtha R. Simms, the historic gossip of the Mohawk and Schoharie valleys, has a great deal of interesting matter on the question, and it is also treated by William L. Stone in his *Life and Times of Johnson*. For details, see J. R. Simms's *Frontiersmen of New York*, 1:203-8, and Stone's *Johnson*, 1:66, 327; 2:490. Edward F. de Lancey, who edited the work written by Thomas Jones, the Tory or Loyalist historian of New York, says she "was a native of Germany whose parents settled on the Mohawk and who died in 1759." He states this on the authority of a writing from Sir John himself, to his daughter Mrs Bowes, a copy of which in Mrs Bowes's handwriting was, at that time, in the editor's possession. Jones's *History of New York*, ed. by Edward Floyd de Lancey, pub. New York Historical Society, 1879, 2:641. O. Turner, however, says she was a redemptionist, who was serving her time with one of his (Sir William's) neighbors. Turner's *Phelps & Gorham's Purchase*, Rochester, 1852, p. 72.

³ Colonel Claus died at King's Castle, Cardiff, and was buried in Cardiff church, November 1787.

III Mary, married to Col. Guy Johnson,¹ and had two daughters:

1 Mary, married Lieutenant General Colin Campbell, afterwards lieutenant governor of Gibraltar, and colonel of the 65th Regiment. Their eldest son became Sir Guy Campbell, first baronet, and this line of baronets still exists.²

2 Julia.

SIR JOHN JOHNSON, 2d baronet, of Johnson Hall, Tryon (afterwards Fulton)³ county, N. Y., finally of Mount Johnson, Montreal; colonel of regiment of horse in the northern district of New York, in 1773; major general of the militia belonging to the same portion of the province after the decease of his father; lieutenant colonel commanding the "Loyal Volunteers" later known as the "King's Royal Regiment of New York," otherwise as "The Queen's Loyal New Yorkers", "Sir John Johnson's Regiment," "Sir John's Royal Regiment,"

¹ Col. Guy Johnson died in March 1788, and his wife Mary died at Oswego a year after her father, July 11, 1775. See de Lancey ed. Jones's *History of New York*, 2:642-43. Guy Johnson is sometimes designated as the son of Sir William (See Royal Magazine, 1. 759, I: 167; letter of James F. Cooper, Nov. 6, 1831, in the State Historian's office) but a careful reading of these *Papers* shows this is not true. He was a kinsman and is usually said to have been his nephew. Sir William's brother John had at least seven sons and Guy may have been one of these.

² Letter from the Hon. David Ross McCord, the McCord National Museum, Temple Grove, Montreal, August 28, 1916.

³ Tryon county was changed to "Montgomery" April 2, 1784. Fulton county was taken from Montgomery April 18, 1838. Johnson, in which the court house, erected by Sir William Johnson in 1772, and Johnson Hall are located, is in Fulton county and is the county seat. At the time of the division a great many of the older records of Tryon county, however, including many relating to Sir William, Sir John and prominent residents of the valley, were retained by Montgomery county, and are to be found in the Montgomery county clerk's office at Fonda, N. Y.

"Sir John's Corps" or "Johnson's" or "Queen's Royal Greens";¹ colonel, British Army, October 21, 1782, brigadier general of the provincial troops, etc., March 14, 1782; superintendent general and inspector general of the Six Nations of Indians and their confederates, of all the Indians inhabiting the province of Quebec and the Frontier, September 16, 1791, . . .; colonel in chief of the six battalions of the militia of the eastern townships of lower Canada. He was knighted at St James's, London, November 22, 1765.² On the death of his father, Sir William, Sir John succeeded to the baronetcy but refused to accept the succession to the former's dignities and offices in connection with the Indians, and they were conferred upon his cousin, Guy Johnson, who exercised them throughout the Revolutionary War, and thus Sir John and Colonel Guy have often been confounded. Sabine says, "Col. Guy Johnson's intemperate zeal for his royal master caused the first affray in that (Tryon) county." Sir John married, June 30, 1773, Mary, daughter of Hon. John Watts, sr., Esq., sometime president of the King's Council of New York, and by her (who died August 7, 1815) he had issue:³

¹ Stone's *Orderly Book of Sir John Johnson*, p. 1-2; Alexander C. Flick's *Loyalism in New York*, Columbia University Press, 1911, p. 102-3; 110-13; F. B. Hough's *Northern Invasion*, N. Y., 1866, p. 47, 136, 154; Croil's *Short History of Canada*, p. 128; Lorenzo Sabine's *The American Loyalists*, Boston, 1847, p. 393; *Public Papers of George Clinton*, v. 10 (index).

² He was sometime of Guyot, County Lincoln, and of Twickenham, Middlesex, in England. He died January 4, 1830, at St Mary's, Montreal, Canada, aged 88. See G. E. C. ed. *Complete Baronetage*, v. 5, pub. William Pollard & Co., Exeter, Eng., p. 105.

³ Mary was born October 29, 1753, and was the fourth daughter of the Hon. John Watts and Anne de Lancey, youngest daughter of Etienne (Stephen) de Lancey, first of the American name. Anne was the sister of Lady Warren, wife of Sir Peter Warren, uncle and patron of Sir William Johnson, thus forming another family link. Lady Mary Johnson was also the second cousin of General Philip Schuyler, his mother and Etienne de Lancey's wife being sisters, and daughters of Stephanus van Cortlandt. See de Lancey, ed. Jones, *New York*, 1:581, 2:642.

- I William, lieutenant colonel, born 1775; married in 1802, Susan, daughter of Stephen de Lancey, governor of Tobago, and sister of Sir William de Lancey, K. C. B., quartermaster general of Wellington's army, killed at Waterloo; and died 1812, leaving by her (who married secondly, 1815, General Sir Hudson Lowe, K. C. B., and died 1832) three daughters:
 - 1 Charlotte, married in 1820, Alexander Count Balmain, Russian commissioner at St Helena, and died in 1824.
 - 2 Mary, died unmarried in 1814.
 - 3 Susan, died unmarried in 1828.
- II Adam Gordon, 3d baronet (see below).
- III James Stephen, born in 1785; captain 28th regiment, killed at Badajoz.
- IV Robert Thomas, drowned in Canada in 1812.
- V Warren, major 68th regiment, died 1813.
- VI John, of Point Olivier, Montreal, colonel commanding 6th battalion of militia, sometime lieutenant royal navy, born August 8, 1782; married February 10, 1825, Mary Diana (who died October 22, 1861), daughter of Richard Dillon, Esq., of Montreal; and died June 23, 1841, leaving issue:
 - 1 William, born November 7, and died December 26, 1828.
 - 2 William George, successor to his uncle, and 4th baronet, died 1908 (see below).
 - 3 Charles, captain Madras artillery, born February 4, 1833; died unmarried, August 30, 1895.
 - 4 Robert, born February 1, 1834; buried August 3, 1837.

5 James Stephen, lieutenant 4th foot, born March 5, 1836; died unmarried in India of sunstroke September 26, 1870.

6 Archibald Kennedy, born June 20, 1839; married November 5, 1865, Katherine Sophia, daughter of Lieutenant Colonel Charles McDonnell, 85th regiment. He died October 6, 1873, and she died May 29, 1911. They had issue:—

1 Edward Gordon, fifth and present baronet (see below).

2 Mary Florence (St Matthias, Montreal, Canada), born February 6, 1870; married December 1, 1891, Charles George Cranmer Kenrick, of Brigham, Lower Canada, who died May 23, 1905. She died May 23, 1911.

John, of Point Olivier, also had four daughters, all of whom died unmarried:

1 Maria Diana, born November 19, 1825, died March 27, 1886.

2 Anne Margaret, born October 28, 1827, died May 15, 1899.

3 Eliza Theresa, born March 9, 1829, died September 28, 1867.

4 Mary Anne, born March 21, 1837, died January 9, 1909.

VII Charles Christopher, of Argenteuil, Canada East, born October 29, 1798; lieutenant colonel 9th lancers; quartermaster general in Ireland; knight of the second class of the Persian Order of the Lion and Sun; married January 8, 1818, Susan, eldest daughter of Admiral Sir Edward Griffith, of Northbrook House, Hants (Hampshire) (who

took the surname of Colpoys). He died September 30, 1854, and she February 23, 1875. They had issue:

- 1 William, an officer in 20th regiment, born May 28, 1821, deceased without issue.
- 2 John Ormsby, vice admiral, royal navy; born August 11, 1822; died March 1881. Married February 17, 1852, Edith Renira, daughter of Rev. Charles Edward Twyford of Trotton, Sussex. She died November 12, 1904.
- 3 Charles Turquand, born June 17, 1825, deceased.
- 4 Edward Colpoys, born August 11, 1835, an officer in the Crimean army, later missionary to northern India, and founder of the Colpoys' branch.

Charles Christopher had two daughters:

- 1 Maria Bowes, married, June 18, 1867, Rev. William Bell Christian, of Ewanrigg Hall, Cumberland, and Milntown, Isle of Man, who died 1886. She died 1877.
- 2 Mary Anne Susan (The Island, Windermere), married April 30, 1863, Henry Fraser Curwen of Workington, Cumberland, and had issue. He died March 6, 1900.

VIII Archibald Kennedy, born in 1792, married September 13, 1818, Maria Johnson, daughter of Patrick Langan, Esq., of Montreal, died without issue October 8, 1866.

Sir John, 2d baronet, also had three daughters:

- 1 Anne, married December 1797 Col. Edward Macdonnell, at one time aide-de-camp to the Duke of Wellington, and later deputy

quartermaster general to the forces of Canada, who died in 1812. She died January 31, 1848.

- 2 Catherine Maria, married, 1805, Major General Barnard Foord Bowes, an officer of unusual ability and intrepidity, who fell in the attack upon the forts at Salamanca, June 23, 1812. (See Harper's "Alison," III, 476 (2) and note, and other authorities on the War in Spain). She died at Anglesey, near Gosport, England, February 5, 1850.

- 3 Marianne, died January 1, 1868.

Sir John died January 4, 1830, and was succeeded by his second but eldest surviving son,

SIR ADAM GORDON, 3d baronet, lieutenant colonel of the 6th battalion of militia, born May 6, 1781; he died unmarried May 21, 1843, and was succeeded by his nephew, Sir William George.

SIR WILLIAM GEORGE, 4th baronet, of St Matthias, near Montreal, Canada, nephew and heir of Sir Adam Gordon Johnson, being the second son and heir of John Johnson, of Point Olivier, Montreal (sixth son of the second baronet), and Mary Diana Dillon, both of Montreal (see under VI above). Sir William George was born December 19, 1830. He was graduated at Woolwich, and for the greater part of his life was engaged in the army in the discharge of various staff duties, at one time serving on the Island of St Helena as governor's aide-de-camp. He was lieutenant of royal artillery, 1848-54. He succeeded to the baronetcy May 21, 1843.¹ He married March

¹ It was in 1843 that the arms of the Johnson family were first registered at the Herald's office in London. These were the O'Neill arms which had already been registered in the Ulster Arms office at Dublin, in February 1774, after Warren Johnson had registered a pedigree showing descent of the Johnson family from the O'Neills.

30, 1889, Elizabeth Hancock Brown, of Montreal, Canada, only daughter of the late Richard Hancock Brown of Bowdon, county of Chester, England. He died without issue, January 26, 1908 at Nice, south of France, and is there interred. His widow was at last accounts still living, and residing at Lausanne, Switzerland. He was succeeded by his nephew Sir Edward Gordon Johnson.¹

SIR (EDWARD) GORDON JOHNSON, 5th baronet, the present holder of the title, of 716 Dorchester Street, West, Montreal, Canada, succeeded to the baronetcy January 26, 1908. He was the only son of the late Archibald Kennedy Johnson, sixth son of John (VI) (see above), and Katherine Sophia MacDonnell, daughter of Lieutenant Colonel Charles MacDonnell, 85th regiment, and granddaughter of Colonel Edward MacDonnell who married Anne, the daughter of Sir John, the second baronet. He is thus doubly connected with the founder of the race in America. Sir Gordon was born March 17, 1867, in Montreal, and was educated at Bishops College, Lennoxville. He married June 18, 1902, Violet Eveline, daughter of the late Thomas Edward Hayes, Esq., M. D., of Dublin, Ireland. As Sir Gordon writes: "The above account of the present baronet deals with the last of the male issue direct in North America."²

HEIR PRESUMPTIVE: FREDERICK COLPOYS ORMSBY JOHNSON, (see above VII-2) first son of John Ormsby Johnson and Edith Renira Twyford, born October 19, 1858; married October 14, 1884, Maria, daughter of the late Henry Lund, barrister at law. Had (1915) two sons and a daughter. His sons are Guy Allen Colpoys Ormsby, born May 25, 1886, lieutenant, army pay department, married and has issue, and

¹ Stone's *Orderly Book of Sir John Johnson*, p. x; G. E. C. *Complete Baronetage*, 5:105; Correspondence Sir Gordon Johnson, July 17, 1916; Burke's *Peerage*, 1915 ed., under "Johnson of New York."

² See Burke, 1915, or later. Letter Sir Gordon Johnson, July 17, 1916.

Lionel Stanley Ormsby, lieutenant, royal navy, flag lieutenant to the admiral, superintendent of the Malta dockyard. Born August 19, 1887. Unmarried. Both of these sons have received the D. S. O., for military and naval service in the present war in Europe. The heir presumptive was formerly major of transport for British troops and is now (1915) brigade major in the third new army of 1914.

Deceased. Robert Warren Johnson (see above VII-2), second son of John Ormsby Johnson, was born May 10, 1868; married July 11, 1906, Grace Isobel, fourth daughter of the late Algernon Paley, and had two sons and one daughter. He was lost in action September 22, 1914, when the H. M. S. "Cressy," of which he was the captain, was torpedoed in the North sea engagement. He was, it is said, one of the greatest torpedo experts in the royal navy.¹

For further details as to the family, the reader is referred to the latest editions of Burke's or Debrett's Peerage. A good account will be found there of the collateral lines, including the Ormsby Johnsons, the Colpoys Johnsons and the other English branches.

¹ See Burke, 1915, and a letter from Sir Gordon Johnson, July 17, 1916.

EXPLANATION OF SIGNS, ABBREVIATIONS, CAPITALIZATION, PUNCTUATION AND WORDS CROSSED OUT

The object of the publication of manuscript material of historical importance is to make it easily accessible to the student. With such an end in view the editor should aim to place the printed text before the reader in such shape that it may be used most quickly and intelligently in order to arrive at the meaning of the author. A letter, in which the writer uses "&" for "and" and crosses out several lines in order to substitute others, should be published with the "and" written out and the crossed out material omitted. If it is desired to call attention to the fact that the writer had something else in mind, when he wrote the letter, and then crossed it out, such information may be relegated to the footnotes and the text left unencumbered.

In eighteenth century manuscripts capital letters are at times fairly sprinkled through the text, sometimes even in the middle of words. The most ardent advocate of identical reproduction of texts does not retain these in the printed page and thus violates his own rules.

Punctuation marks are at times very irregularly and illogically used. The editor, who has pored over hundreds of manuscripts and has become familiar with the peculiarities of a writer, is much more competent to supply the necessary punctuation marks and omit the superfluous ones, in order to make the meaning clear, than is the student who more generally than not uses the collection for a comparatively few documents.

On the continent of Europe a much saner view of text publication is current than in England and America. In the latter countries editors have seemed to be more interested in leaving a quaint flavor by the retention of "ye," "yatts," "oyr"

(instead of writing out "the," "that's" and "other") than they are in the fundamental object of the publication of texts.

In deference, however, to the common American practice, but without committing themselves to an approval of it, the editors of the Johnson manuscripts have reproduced them with all the abbreviations, misspellings, capitalization and punctuation. Where matter has been written in and crossed out and new material substituted, this has been indicated. The only thing the editors have not done is to retain capitals in the middle of words — as CaPtAin. Even the American extremists will pardon them this deviation, because of the atrociously bad appearing page that such printing makes.

For obvious reasons in a correspondence collection such as this, where the manuscript pages vary so much, no attempt has been made to make a linear transcription.

< > surrounding words or parts of words indicates that they appear in the Hastings proof but are not verifiable because of the burned condition of the manuscript.

[] surrounding words or parts of words or a space indicates that the portion is undecipherable and that the parts within the brackets have been left out or have been supplied by the editors, sometimes by virtue of the context and sometimes because faint traces of words may be made out. When they appear about the name of a place or a date they indicate as above or that the information has been derived from Dr Day's *Calendar* referred to in the introduction.

[] surrounding words or parts of words italicized indicates that they have been crossed out by the writer, except in the case of names of places and dates as indicated below.

Amount of blank space between brackets indicates the approximate number of words which can not be deciphered or which were on portions of the manuscript which were burned off.

LARGE AND SMALL CAPITALS are used to indicate autograph signatures and also the names to whom documents or letters are addressed in the manuscript.

SMALL CAPITALS used in words at the beginning and ending of a document or letter indicate that the words are used by the editors to call attention to the titles or indorsements which appear in the manuscript.

Dates of letters or documents and the place of writing are put in italics for typographical reasons to make the chronological order prominent.

Documents or letters without date are put in their approximate place so far as the editors are able to judge by their content or other information.

Documents or letters dated at the end: When in the original the place of writing and the date appear at the end of a document or letter, they have been transferred to the beginning so as to make the chronological sequence prominent.

Superior letters are used in the manuscripts sometimes with no periods underneath, sometimes with one or with two and sometimes with a colon. Here we have usually indicated them with one period slightly to one side so as to avoid making special fonts.

Where words or letters have evidently been omitted or duplicated by the writer or wrong words or letters have been used, the editor has made no change as the errors are obvious to the reader.

@ or a.....	at and acre
Ab ^t	about
Acc ^t	account
Acq ^t	acquaint
Ad ^t	additional
A. Df.	autograph draft
Ag st	against
Als	alias
A. L. S.	autograph letter signed

Amt ^t	amount
Bar ^t	baronet
Cap ^{tn}	captain
Col ^l , Coll ^l , Coll ^o . or Col ^o	colonel
Com ^{and} or comm ^d	command
Com ^{dr}	commander
Commis ⁿ	commission
Commis ^r	commissioner
Comp ^{ny}	company
Com ^t	commandant
C ^t	cent or hundredweight
Curr ^t	current
D.	document
Dd	delivered
Df.	draft
D ^r	dear, in term of address
D. S.	document signed
Esq ^r	esquire
Excell ^{cy} , Excell ^y , Ex ^{ty} , Ex ^y . or Ex ^y	excellency
Gen ^l	general
Gent ⁿ	gentlemen
Left ^t , Liu ^t . or Lt.	lieutenant
℔	pound
Lre	letter
L. S.	letter signed
Matys.	majesty's
Mercht ^t	merchant
Obed ^t	obedient
Off ^r	officer
Orig ^l	original
Oy ^r	other
P or p ^s	piece
Pd.	paid or pounder, term of ordnance
Pr. or ꝑ	per
Pris ^r	prisoner
Prop ^r	proprietary, holder of proprietary rights in a colony
Provin ^l	provincial
Pr ^{sent}	present
P ^t	point

Q. D. C.....	Quem Deus conducat
Rec ^d	received
Reg ^d	regard
S ^d	said
Serg ^t	sergeant
S ^r	Sir
Sug ^r	sugar
W ^{ch} . or W ^h	which
W ^d	would
W ^t	what
W th	with
Y ^e	the
Y ^r	your
Y ^t	that
Y ^u	you

SOME AUTOGRAPHS ON LETTERS IN VOLUME
ONE

Ph. Livingston

J. Ayscough

Aren + Stevens

W. Shuckburgh

Robt. A. Morris

Geo. Coeplan

Robt Come

Oliver Sedaney

Will: Lyne

Elihu Goodrich

Phyman

Moses Starnb

Chas: A. Herring

Eph. Williams

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON PAPERS

EDWARD CLARKE TO WALTER BUTLER¹

A. L. S.

Albany Feby 6th 1737/8²

DR SIR

I take the liberty from the respect I owe You to Advise a little with You concerning an Affair that is Apprehended to be on foot between Doc^r. Dishington & Miss Dick 'Tis reported that they are to be att Fort Hunter And that there the most unjust & ingratefull Action that ever had birth on this Stage is to be executed Conscious I am that You're a Stranger intirely to this cursed Scheme And that I think it the friends part to Acquaint You of it If such a thing is to be for Gods Sake let not You're Fort be the scene where 'tis to be Acted in I say Again I insist that You don't suffer them to come into Your house where they may previously to Your knowledge huddle up a marriage and tho' You are innocent the censorious part of mankind will absolutely condemn You and the more moderate part Suspect Thus for Your own Character & to highly oblige me advise the Doc^r to send her back to Bloods & not Suffer them Under Your Roof forgive my Impertinence that hurry occasions & look upon it as a rough river impetuously flowing from A Serene Sincere fountain adieu

I am Y^r. Most hu^{le} Ser^t

EDW^d: CLARKE

ADDRESSED: To Captain Butler att his Comand att Fort Hunter

INDORSED: from Cap^t. Clark

¹ Walter Butler, a lieutenant in the New York regiment; father of Thomas, John and Walter jr.

² Many letters of the early period in this collection bear a double year date, conforming to both the old style and the new. The term "old

EDWARD CLARKE TO WALTER BUTLER

A. L. S.

*Albany March y^e 3^d. 1737/8*S^R.

I had the honour of Yours by Ellwood and am uneasy that You Should Imagine I thought or that 'twas in the power of any person to make me beleive You was either knowing of or Accessory to the Curs'd plot of that Vile Mans. No S^r. My Opinion is Infinitely better of You but the reason of my writing You was to prepare You & to give You an Opportunity to Avoid the Censure of ill minds Next when I shall have the pleasure of Speaking to You we'll talk more of the Affair

Let me beg S^r. You'll Inlist as many Men as possible that are good Men for I shall Muster publicly the 24th of June ensuing So that I must beg Your Care to Send them Down again that time I hope by your Assistance to Shew a Compleat Company

style" indicates the calendar framed by Julius Caesar in 46 B. C., of which the most important features are an assumed solar year of 365 days and 6 hours, and a day added to the common year every four years to satisfy the accumulation of time. As the excess of the solar year over 365 days is about 5 hours 48 minutes and 46 seconds, the allowance in the Julian system for accumulation caused the civil year to fall behind the solar year, until in 1582, when the calendar was reformed by Pope Gregory XIII, there was a difference of 10 days between them. To correct the variation, 10 days were suppressed; and, to reduce future accumulations, it was determined that centurial years should not be regarded as leap years unless the number of the year was divisible without a remainder by 400. Thus 1900 was not a leap year.

Protestant countries did not at once accept the reformed calendar; and it was not till 1751 that the British parliament passed a law providing for the adoption of the new style. In September of the following year 11 days were canceled. In addition, the year was made to begin January 1st instead of March 25th, as it had done. For some years before 1752, people in the British colonies dated their letters in various fashions, some adhering to the old style, some to the new, and many employing both. The varying usage affects letters written between January 1st and March 25th.

I thank You Sincerely for those You have listed already You may tell those that You have & shall list they shall have their Cloaths Yearly

I am Sr. Y^r. Most obed^t. Ser^t.

EDWARD CLARKE

ADDRESSED: To Captⁿ Butler Commanding the Garrison att Fort Hunter

INDORSED: Letter from Cap^t. Clark

EDWARD CLARKE TO JAMES STEVENSON

A. L. S.

May y^e 10th 1738

D^r. S^r.

I had the favour of Yours the last of Ap^l. in which was inclos'd the Discharge Sign'd by M^r. Butler for which I return You many thanks—As I have not time now I beg You'll write Butler or Send him this letter And let him know that it does not come within my power to let him Draw for his pay As I am Absolutely to Draw for Company And Officers by w^{ch} is Understood that I must pay the Officers And Men their Subsistance he may do what he pleases with his Arrear — tell him I beg he'll write his merch^t & M^r. Guerin that I'm the only person that can Draw in Order to hinder any Confusion that Otherwise might happen

I am Sr. Y^r. most hub^l. Ser^t

EDW^d CLARKE

ADDRESSED: To M^r. James Stevenson in Albany

FROM JOHN RILEY

A. L. S.

Swegey¹ 8^{bre} the 26th 173[]²

Mis: William Jonson this is for to [] understand that I am seafe arived here [] att this p^rsent I could not prevaile for to get one thing that wold sheut me for a present to you butt tow samons which I do send to you by Richard Imes³ My Kind Love to you & your Cosen⁴ and I shall send more I hop[e] pickeled hereafter sor Excuse me for my Small present att this presnt butt My Love to all your famely Expe[c]t further nuse from me the forst oppertyney so I Remaine youre well wisher tiwill deth

JOHN RILEY

TO PETER WARREN

A. Df.

[May the 10th 1739]

DR. UNCLE

I had <the favour of yours of the 20th of April> wherein I find y^u. are displeased <att my purchaseing the land,>⁵ Which

¹ Oswego.

² Originally calendared as 1733. This date was not possible as Johnson was not in this country until 1737 or 1738. On the burned letter the figure may be read as 3, 8 or 9.

³ So in ms. It may be intended for Jones or Innes.

⁴ Probably his cousin, Michael Tyrrell, referred to as "Mick" in a letter from Johnson's uncle, Captain Peter Warren, to Johnson. That letter was sent from Boston under date of November 20, 1738, and is quoted in Stone's *Life of Sir William Johnson*, 1:63. In a letter from Tyrrell to Johnson under date of May 28, 1741 (*See Day's Calendar*, p. 9, and below.), Tyrrell asks to be remembered to all friends and sends respects to Doctor Barclay, Mr and Mrs Dillon, "to Catty and all that Inquires for me," showing that he had been with Johnson in the Mohawk country.

⁵ This land, north of the Mohawk, was that on which Johnson built a house in 1749. See letter of December 30, 1748, to Captain Catherwood and of December 31st to Samuel and William Baker.

in Every Bodys Opinion <is a good Bargain, and Can any>
time I please Sell it for the Money <And More So that I hope,
Dr.> Uncle y^l. not continue y^r. Opinion <when y^u. See it and
know> My Design (w^h. is this) to have a Carefull Honest
<Man there> Who will Manage the farm, w^h. will at least
<Clear I am Sure> £30 ꝯ Annum, Moreover the Chief thing
is a <fine Creek to build> a Saw Mill on, haveing Loggs
Enough att hand, <half of w^h. Creek> belongs to Me, so that
I intend after a little time, <please God, to> build a Mill there,
w^h. May Clear £40 ꝯ Annum, and that wthout Much trouble,
so that the Income of that may Enable me <the better> to go
on in the World, tho I must Acknowledge Dr. Uncle that
<w^t.> great favours y^u. Were pleased to do me, was a Sufficient
Beginning And am wth. all the Gratitude Imaginable Contented
wth. it, and <for> the future shall be no way Expensive, nor
troublesome to y^u. No farther than ꝯhaps I may want Some
goods or Necessarys wth. the procureing of w^h. I may ꝯhaps. make
bold to trouble y^u., but not wth. out the Money for it. as for the
goods w^h. y^u. and Mr. Middleton Sent here they will not Answer,
for When I over Looked them I found all the Stockings Mostly
Moth Eaten, and I fear the Rest will be so to, if not Already,
I have Aired them all verry well w^h. is the best thing Can be done
wth. them. I long to hear from y^u. w^t. y^u. will have done wth.
them. were they proper goods for this Country it would be much
better. Y^r. Comeing here is much longed for by us & Severall
others who are Inclined to Come and Settle On the land, but
wait y^r. Comeing, w^h. I wish may be Soon if it Suits wth. y^u.
They are all people in Good Circumstance and would like being
near me in hopes of haveing a good Neighbourhood Soon here
W^h. I hope we shall; As to my Moveing over where I made the
purchase, to live there I never had the least Notion in the World
of it, but what I meant was that it would be the properest place
on the Whole River for a Store house and Shop in the Winter,
by reason of all the High Germans passing by that way in the
Winter, and all the upper Nations of Indians, whose trade is
pritty Valluable, But I will talk no more ab^t. it until I have the

pleasure of Seeing y^u. <As to the Title of that land w^h. Joyns that I bought, there is no Doubt of it; it belongs to two Brothers of these Moors who made a verry Safe purchase of it. As to the quantity of land I am not Certain, because It has not been Surveyed, but the lines Run 2 Miles Square I think. As for the Clear> and upon it or w^t. <they Call flats here, is verry Considerable being.> reckoned as Good as any on the <River and Contains ab^t. 40 Acres on the Shoar> besides 4 or 5 Isleands some of <w^h. are Clear, all w^h., they have> fine wheat of yearly. Your Seeing of it would <be much more to y^r.> Satisfaction than my Discription Can be. Y^u. Mention <in y^r. last of Sending> More large Casks here, and Iron bound Barrells <w^h. if y^u. have not> as yet Sent, I would be glad y^u. Would keep them, because <the one large Cask,> y^u. were pleased to Send me is Sufficient together <wth. what> Small ones I have Already. Moreover there is no liklyhood <of much Vent> for Rum, if this Act passes w^h. Mr. Barckly¹ petitions <for In the> Indians Name, the Cheifs of whom I have asked how they <Come to Sign> Such a petition, wheras they were so well pleased at my <Settleing> here, and keeping w^t. necessarrys they wanted, to w^h. they declared <they> never knew one word of it, but that it is all Mr. Barcklays doing <w^h. the> Ind^{as}.

¹ Rev. Henry Barclay, D. D., was a native of Albany and son of the Rev. Thomas B., first Episcopal minister of that city. He was graduated at Yale College in 1734, and on the recommendation of the Rev. Mr Miln, of St Peter's Church, was appointed catechist to the Mohawks at Fort Hunter in 1736; he proceeded to England in 1737, for the purpose of receiving holy orders, and was ordained on January 30, 1737/8, and sent by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel missionary to Albany and Fort Hunter; he arrived in his native city in the beginning of April following, and continued his labors there and among the Mohawks until October 1746, when he was inducted rector of Trinity Church, New York. In 1761 he received the degree of doctor of divinity from the College of Oxford, and died August 20, 1764. At the time of his death he was engaged in superintending the printing of a Translation of the Book of Common Prayer into the Mohawk dialect.— *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:88.

dont like, Rum being the only thing they mostly trade <for. If> y^u. could D^r. Uncle Dispose of half the white Linnen, and let me <have> for it, the goods Mentioned in the Invoice, w^h. are mostly Indian <truck,> and fitt to trade wth. to a place Called Oquago to the Southward from this on Suscahannah River, towards Philidelphia, where I intend if y^u. think proper to Make a tryall this fall wth. ab^t. £200 worth of Goods W^h. I am Credibly Informed by those that Came from thence that I Can to advantage dispose of them to the Indians there, better than at Oswego because there are to many traders go there, and all a parcell of Meer Bites, But here att Aquago there are but very few go there, So y^t. I Conceit I Could Make a good hand there, haveing a fellow here who I would take wth. me that Understands their tongue and way of dealing So that if it hitts well wth. me I may be a great deal the better of it, If not I Dont fear Selling the goods Elsewhere, Indian truck being the best that goes of here. I would Willingly have y^r. Advice ab^t. it, by the first opertunity. By Reason I would be provideing one little thing or another again the time w^h. is in August the best time to go. As to that land between y^u. & Jⁿ. Wemp, I had formerly a letter from the Cheif Justice Ab^t. it desireing I would Look into it, and Enquire ab^t. it w^h. I did of Jⁿ. Wemp, and Severall others who tell me that Captⁿ. Butler has an Indⁿ. Deed for it, w^h. I asked one of the Cheif Ind^{ns}., who tells me the Same; people here are mad Every day purchaseing land, & Surveying, so that land must be verry dear in a Short time; as to my keeping in well wth. all people y^u. may Assure y^r. Self of it, D^r. Uncle, for I daresay I have the good will of all people w^t.soever, and much respected, Verry much on y^r. Acctt. and my Own Behaviour, w^h. I trust in God I shall always Continue.

TO _____

A. L. S.¹Sept^{br}. the 2^d 1739S^r.

Haveing Some familys Come to Settle here on Captⁿ. Warrens land, who now are Oblidged to quit the Improvements they have Made, By Reason of the lands not being laid out in Lotts, w^h. Occasions a great deal of trouble and will a great deal more, if not Divided onto Parcells, or Lotts, Which I would be very Glad was done Directly this Week, haveing three familys now in my house waiting for the land to be laid out for them, therefore beg you may not Delay in it; the Willigee Negroes have got Major [Salen?] to Survey their lands, and say they will Come in upon my Clearing, a good deal. So that I would be Glad to See about it Soon.

Being all from S^r. Y^r. Most humble Servt.

pray my kind respects to Wm. Spouse²

W^m. JOHNSONTO EDWARD COLLINS³A. L. S.⁴Mount Johnson, Febr. the 19th. 1739/40S^r.

hearing of your comeing from Sopus, I thought you might have settled that Affair of the Willigees, w^h. I should be glad to know before I went down how it is, that I might order My business Accordingly; As to that Affair of conscerning the Creek, I desired a Coppy of Clements Writeings w^h. he told I should freely have, but he thought better of it, and now tells me the Key of his trunk is lost, W^h. is but a sham; I have Spoke

¹ In the library of The Society of Colonial Wars, New York City.

² Perhaps Spence.

³ Edward Collins, of Albany, a lawyer. He was a commissioner of Indian affairs, 1734-38 and 1739-45.

⁴ In Oneida Historical Society, Utica, N. Y.

to Petrus Vandreisen who Says it is the greatest Imposition Imaginable w^h. he, and his Brother Hennery Vandreisen in Albany, who are the Wittnesses to said Agreement, will testifie, but I will defer Mentioning any more abt. it till I see you, but beg you'll let me know by the Bearer in a few lines, w^t. you have Done in that Affair. I am wth. Kind respects to you & M^{rs}. Collins, S^r. Y^r. verry humble Serv^t.

W^m. JOHNSON

RECEIPT FROM EIAS CARLOCK

D. S.

Rec^d. of M^r. W^m. Johnson the Sum of fifteen Shillings on Acct^t. of Peter Young in full of all Acct^{ts}. As Witness My hand this 11th. Day of April 1740
£0-15-0

his

EIAS EC. CARLOCK
Mark

FROM PHILIP LIVINGSTON¹

A. L. S.

Albany 25 Febr^y 1740/1

SIR

Yours of yesterday I Rec^d. just as y^r. man was going away. I am very much pleas'd you have not agreed for more wheat a 3/3^d. which price I Suppose will not be maintaind 3/ would have been enough and at that your wheat from y^e westward will not do for boating pease I Conjecture will be in demand because of ye hard winter and bad Crop but what price they will be I cant

¹ Philip Livingston, father of Philip, signer of the Declaration of Independence, was born at Albany in 1686. He took part in the expedition of 1710 against Port Royal, was a commissioner of Indian affairs, clerk of Albany county, member of the New York provincial council and member of boundary commissions. He died at New York in 1749.

Say I am in want of Some I wish you would Spare me abt. 50 or
100 skiple at a Reasonable price. yr. man has a bar Iron wt.
63^{lb} 23/7[?] I am with Respects

Sir Your most humble Serv^t.

PH. LIVINGSTON

ADDRESSED: For William Johnson, Esq.

FROM MICHAEL TYRRELL¹

A. L. S.

[Port Royal, Jamaica, May 28, 1741]

[²]
[] part []
[] us [] where the []
[] Colonel Gooch³ [] Order [] yet []
[] I had success and got a Lieutenants Commis []
[] ent in the Second Battalion in Cap^t Rob [art Clarks
Company ?] [] Cap^t Warran⁴ Crust about the Island of
Cuba [] []g Prizes and fought a Spanish privateer
that moun[] []ns 44 Swivel Guns had on boa[r]d 134
men the privateer Landed an[] Battery of Eight Guns and
fought us of and on for 2 Days but we [] [d]emoleshed
the scooner and Battery as for the Spanerds they wen[]
[S]hore and Tock to woods after tacken the other prizes we
Come [] [J]amaica and went out again and Tock Several
Sloops which prove [] []od Prizes I Received 173 pieces
of Eight which Came to my Share [as mid] [S]hipman In all
we Toock 6 Sloops Spanish/2 frinch Ships after wh[ich] [I
wa]s Sent a Shore to my Respective Company in order to do
Duty U[] []t of May 1741 Cap^t Warran burnd a Great
Spanish privateer [] [m]ounted 10 Great Guns 18 Swivel

¹ Lieutenant Michael Tyrrell, Johnson's cousin, a soldier in the expedition of 1741 against Cartagena, in Colombia.

² Several lines are missing.

³ Sir William Gooch, governor of Virginia from 1727 to 1747.

⁴ Captain Peter Warren.

Guns She had on board 107 men my un[cle] [k]ild 40 men wounded the privateer Capt and Took 3 Englishmen They had [] [p]risners and one Spanerd the rest ran a Shore Cap^t Warran Expended [] []o Barrals of Gun Powder that Day this Ingaigement was to windard of [S]t Iago att Cuba the Privateer kild one man of Capt Warrans men and wounded [] men My Uncle is Just Come heare and brought Great In[]lliegance from the Spanerds which []ll be of Great Servis to our General an[d] Admiral I was the Same time att Carta[ge]na and Landed the 8th of March where we billt a Fasescine Battrey of 20 Guns and we []nnadeded and Bombarbed and Maide a Breach in the Great and Strong Castle of Bahachica [wh]ich mounted 70 Great Guns after Storming and Tackening that Fort we Tooock 6 Forts []re Viz: Fort St: Joseph 44 Guns St. philips 12 Guns St Iago 4 Guns Fort de la punta [] Guns Castle Grandey 48 Guns Fort Manzanilla 10 Guns, burned and Sunk 1 (70 Gun [Ship]) 1 (40 Gun Ship) 2(60 Guns Ships) 4 Galleons that mounted 60 Guns Each, April the 4th [17]41 Marched Towards the City of Cartagena with 150 Grannedeers 300 Amaricans the Spanards Sallied out on us to the number of 600 men and fought us in the open field we [fi]red att them and Wheeld to the Right & Leift we fired Street firing att¹ and went in the Rear [o]f the Battalion the Spanards tought that we ware Retreating they huzzad and Came up to us bouldly but found themsevels Misttacken when another platoon anvanced with Recovered arms and Trowe itt plump in the Midst of the Spanards and kild 40 of the Enemy they turned Tale and Ran as if the Divil was in them I was under the command of Brigadier Blackeny and Coll L [] Blackeny & Cap^t Edward Clark was Wounded both in the Ankle we Droue all the [Sp]annards into theire Garrisons and Fort St. Lazaro which Lazaro proved a featiall Fort to us after (after the 4th of April we was very bissey making brest works parapets and Trenches we Incampt within 2 miles of the City of Carta-

¹ The writer seemingly omitted a word or words.

gena April the 8th 1741 we Drue up our Armeey in order to
 Storm St. Lazaro & Marched up at 3 aClock in the morning
 when we Came to there Grand Guard they Challengd us bouldly
 3 times when we Gave them no anser they Fired Brisckly att us
 and Retreated to theire Fort we advanced with Scaleing Ladders
 wooll packs and all other Utensils of war when we Came in
 Sight they Fired att us Very hott out of Cannons and pattrares¹
 and Muscets We Returned the Sallute and held it 3 hours & a
 helf they had the advantage of us being Coverd in Trenches &
 Garrisons that we were forced t[o] Retreate with the Loss of
 648 men of ours Kild after which we ware Oblidged to []
 Camp and Return to Jamaica we shall not be long heare we are
 Going on Some Privit [] [Ex]pidition [] not
 nown [to] us yet where []²
 [] Jack & []
 [] was in all [the] Attacks from first
 to last [] [] had a Ensign broack
 for Cowardice for he Deserted [] []
 [f]eare from being Shott a Great many of the Americans
 ha[] [] James Thomson Dead John
 [Landen?] kild and a Vast maney mo[] []
 there [] uncle the 1st of January la[]
 [] [] ng a Day pay for which I []
 Ever be Oblidged to my D^r uncle [] who provided so
 well for me [] Every Day Sence I arived heare []
 []ⁿ. Warran who is very [well is still?] with us I have
 gott Such a good Corrector [] [] nel Martin Coll.
 Cope Coll Lealon and all [] officers of our Battalion My
 Unc[le] [] aiting for the Admiral and Expects him Every
 Day he is Going home to New Y[] [] om Thence to
 England he is going to bield a fine Church on his one Land Close
 by y[] [] rd has a fine Brass field piece and Some
 Swivell Guns to Send you, I would be [] [] lad if theare
 was a Frinch war for our Regiment would be ordered to New

¹ Pedreros, or patereros, a piece of ordnance.

² Several lines are missing.

Yor[k] []od get a Company as itt is if My Uncle was to Stay heare one half ye[] []maica Wold get me a Company he is so well beloved heare that they wold grant []ny faveour he asks of them The Assembly [met] the 10 of may and Made a Speech to Warran & sent him a Letter of thanks for the Servises he has done them in Destroying these two priviteers he Returd the Compliment the Assembly Gave his Ships Crue 535[] for the 107 men that [is 5 for] Every Spanard I have Inclosed Admiral Vernons Le[] and w[ill] send [] of [] Battle and the Generals orders if I h[ave] time it is Tought that after another Tryal with the Spanards that the Seate of [] war will be in flanders and that we will be sent to England this fall if the hurri[cane] will let us stay So Long in the west Indies I Long very much to Go to Flanders fo[r] I Delight in war tho I have Seen Great Slatter and Several Chainges Seince I sea[n] you I Actt as Adjutant an well as Lieutanant in Mr Halls room How is very w[] I belive he will Gett Capt Robart Clarks Company, I Spock to him about [Rich?] Haversack he will do what lyes in his power to Gett you the money or if wee Go [] New york he will Secure him for you but heare he Cant get the money for want [of] the Bond there is no Sending itt heare because wee Dont no when we will be Remov[] if the Frinch Disturbs you in America our Regiment will be Sent to New york where I hope to have the Pleasure of seeing you in Good Health, Plase to lett me no [] your if you heard from home, and when you write to my Uncle & Aunt Johnson Plas[] to Remimber my best Respects to them and a[ll] Friends plase to Lett My Father an[d] Mother and Give them a Account of my Prosceedings and to Lett them no wheare i am, Dr Cousin plase to do me the Faveour to write to me att Every Oppertunity and Derect to Lieu^t. Mich^{le} Tyrrell in the 2^d Battalion of [Co]ll Goohs Regiment to the Care of Mr Charles Handly Merchant in Kingstown Jamaica, all Friends heare Desiere to be Remimberd to you Mr Hall, Jack pain Patt Flood¹ Mr Tattan and all on board the

¹ See Bryan Flood to Patrick Flood, June 5, 1741.

Squirrel gives theire service to you and Mr Waide (Doctor Ramsey and his Mate Vandrison is Dead) plase to Remember to all frinds and Best Respects to Doctor Barclay Mr and Mrs [p] Dillon to Catty¹ and all that Inquire for me I tould My Uncle that you Spock to the Indians about Makeing 3 or 4 paire of Garters and a fine Sword bellt and a paire of Shose and he was verry well plased att itt you had better send these things to New York when you heare that he is Come to York for he has a Great fancy for those things he would make presents to Friends in England of Some them My Uncle would be very well pleased if [] wold Incourage the Tanents and Settle as many as You Can on good Terems [] tends to go up to Albany in Next Summer to see the Improvements you [] [about] you & to see where to [] the Church and plant the Guns if I had [] time I [] give a full account [] all the [] spent sence I left Albany bo [] t my new [] I will give you [] happend

FROM BRYAN FLOOD TO PATRICK FLOOD

A. L. S.

Killeen [June 5, 1741]

Dr. brother this is to Let you [] we are all in healh at present t[] few lines would find you in the Same [] I admire if you Recived my Letters that [] did not write to me or Els I must think you [] Dead Shurly if you woud be alive you woud Send me answer for this is three writings I have Sent you now and you never wass Sow Sivel as to Send me answer which makes your mother grive and your Sisters thinking you are Dead Dr Brother Edmon is with us Still and I blive he Shant be long Sow for he is the trichers fellow that Ever you Sean and I heering of this I wass resolved to aquaint Mr. Johnson² of it for I Cant abide his hettring or bulling for he is only Exposeing and rediguling us night and Day for

¹ Probably Catherine Wisenberg, Johnson's wife.

² Evidently a Mr Johnson in Ireland, perhaps Sir William's father.

that Reson I will Sooner Ern my bread for topenny a day than
 I woold Stea in one house with him brother patt farrell Sends
 his Sarvis to you and he is out of place this three months past
 which I am very Sorry to [] this Last Mr. he had he is Dead
 [] got wit weges from Mr. []
 Due on the Lord plunkett [] [an]d thomas
 nangel wass to pay the [] becaus he wass
 one of the Excettors [and he] wass [g d ?] him your
 mother Sends her Sarves to you and molly and all the nabours
 Dr. Brother I hop[e] you will write to me by the fris[t] opper-
 tunity and then I woold Let you now allittel more of my mind
 for I am in a Dred you are not alive¹

This is all att
 present from your
 frend and umble Sarvent

BRYAN FLOOD

CONFERENCE BETWEEN ESOPUS INDIANS AND JUSTICES OF
 THE PEACE²

Present [Kingston, September 7, 1741]

Coll Abraham Gaesbeek [Chambers?]
 Cap^t. Edward Whitaker
 Maj^r. Johannis Hardenbergh
 Mr. Jacob Ten Brock
 Coll Gilbert Livingston Supervisor
 Mr. Jan Van Dueson
 Cap^t. John Sleght
 Mr. Corn^{lis} New kerk Supervisor

The Esopus Indians haveing desired meeting of the Justices	
Nachnawachena alias Sander Chief Sachim together with	
Hakawaremin	} under Sachims & 23 Indians more besides Squaas & Children
Qualaghquninjou	
Walagaghin	

¹ See Tyrrell to Johnson, May 28, 1741.

² A. D. S. by G. Livingston.

The Indians being asked what they had to offer to the Justices and made answer that they Came only to Shak-hands & Renue the friendship and gave three Small dear Skins Eight Rats & two minks and further Said they were a poor people & had no better present to make and they Expected that Each ought to assist the other.

The Justices answered that they were glad that they Came to Renue the peace which has been kept all along by the ancestors and [] then that if [] knowledge of any Enemys [] that they shall acquaint us [] Shall doe to them if we know [] to hurt them to which they all agreed

The Sachims Shewed the Articles of peace made in writting by our ancestors which they promised to observe on their part and the Justices promised also to observe on their parts.

The Indians Said they Intended to Come next Spring to Renew the peace again and they were answered that when they wanted to speake with the Justices that they ought first to Send a messenger to know when it would Suit the Justices that they may acquaint the Justices that live Remote

The Justices & Supervisors gave the Indians a present of Eight pounds Eight Shillings & Six pence

Ordered that the Indians have a Copy of these proceedings

A True Copy Examined

Ⓜ GIL: LIVINGSTON Clerk

FROM WILLIAM CORRY

A. L. S.

Schenectite June y^e 4th 1742

¹] expected you []
settle our Affairs, as I spoke [to] I suppose
he let you know. It is [] I to settle our own
affairs then to trouble [] or y^e Law — Them

¹ Several lines missing.

y^t Really wish Prosperity [] Either of us, wish
it to us boath and your End[] put y^e best face on
y^r. Story, and I likewise upon [Mine] really a
lessening to us boath in y^e Eyes of y^m. y^t have regard for us, and
I see nothing to hinder our adjusting it our selves — I assure you
I think I have no reason to be asham'd of Laying this affair before
a Court of Justice, but I shall be griev'd if Ever M^r. Johnstons
affairs and mine Shall Trouble a Jury — Pray take my advice
in this affair, and you will find y^r advantage in it, which is, Come
to Schonectide on Sunday Next and I will Meet you at M^r.
Nixons, or come and take Share of what Dinner we have, and
Heartily Welcome and let us talk over Every thing and trey to
settle it ourselves or let it Intirely alone untill your Uncle Comes,
who you soon Expect in this country, and then don't Mention
upon hon^r. one word of the affair to him untill you let me know
and I will before you let him know y^e whole affair in my Favour;
and you in y^r. Favour, and if he Says proseed against me, do you
proseed, if not, he will Settle it himself, This Sir I think y^e Most
Prudent Method for us boath. Therefore if you think it best
for ourselves to meet upon it, come down on Sunday, if to Leave
y^e affair before y^r Uncle, I am content or if Nothing but common
Law will Satisfie you, let me know it, and I shall Make my best
defence, which I hope is not y^e Coarse you will take, y^e Money
you advanc'd with y^e Goods in my absence is out of the Question,
That I shall pay as [] very sorry it
is so long [] we have sold some Goods, but I
assure [] five pounds in Cash, I have five
Serv^{ts}. [] Ever way Money comes in first,
it shall go [] you know Sir, y^e greatest Incon-
venience y^t can [] you in regard to y^m. peoples
Money is your [] ing] out of it a Little time, as you
tell to all my Friends you trusted y^m. people in respect to me,
pray Shew it by y^r Indulgence to y^m, and believe me M^r Johnson
y^t your Intrest and Mine leys more in Strengthening Each other
then in oppressing; So Pray let us End this affair, and be to Each

other as we Ever have been, y^t it is my desire and Inclination so to do I assure you by this letter. Which with y^e respects of this Family Please to accept of from

y^r Most Obed^t. humbl Serv^t.

WILL^m. CORRY

FROM HYDE CLARKE

A. L. S.

Oswego May [19, 1743]

DR. SR.

Your favour I rec'd and am heartily glad you are in health for I long'd much to have heard from you in this remote place I have safely rec'd y^e. things you sent me but can't promiss as yet to let you have any of my peltry till I have settled Acc^{ts} with Mr. Holland & then please God what I shall have occasion of I shall repair to you if I have my health. Dr. Sr. As a stranger to y^e. place according to your desire have spoke to y^e best of my ffrinds for advice for your intrest in this place which is Mr. Peters he says if you send a batoe up you'll be y^e. looser for y^e. Trade decays much especially this year. I have wrote to Mr. Holland to send me 3 or 4 hogsheads of Rum up for I have disburstd many Barrells of y^e. Handlers to y^e. Soldiers & Indians so if he won't doe it I desire y^e. favour of you to [] is] stead pray show him [] it answer my request [] me to be your most sincere ffrind & affectionate reposer

HYDE CLARKE

P S

Mr. Peters which is a real friend of yours heartily returns you his most sincere thanks for your good Assistance in reccommending his son to Cap^t. Warren on board his Ship he least of thought of his son being there unknown to him in his absence but is much obldgd. to you for your Civility he remembers his Compliments to you & believe y^e. Same from your Sincere affectionate Loving ffrind to Command. Doc^r. Kerr likewise

HYDE CLARKE.

(Late at Night)

DR. SR. The Doct. Desires y^e favour you will send the things he wrote for he's in great need

ADDRESSED: To William Johnson Esq. at Mount Johnson

FROM HYDE CLARKE

An undated letter from Hyde Clarke, following the above in the Johnson Calendar, was destroyed in the fire.

SUMMONS FROM COMMISSIONERS OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

D. S.

To M^R. WILLIAM JOHNSON:

Whereas Information Hath been made to us that you have Sent Rum and Strowds for sale to the french or Indians contrary to the Tenor Intent and meaning of an Act of Generall Assembly of the Colony of New York Entituled an act for Supporting the Garrison at osweego & To Regulate the furr trade in the County of albany passed in the Sixteenth year of his present majesties Reign and We haveing also Just Cause to Suspect you to have Acted Contrary to the Said Act Wherefore by Virtue of the power to us Given by the Said Act of Generall assembly you are hereby required and Commanded personnally to be and appear before us John de peyster and Philip Livingston Junior at the dwelling house of Either of us in the first ward of the City of Albany at or within fourteen days after this summons Shall be personnally served upon you or Left at your usual place of abode To make oath of the full Quantity of Strowds or other Cloaths Rum or other distilled Liquors you have Sent Carried or transported for Sale to the Indians or french since the first day of November Last Contrary to the Intent and meaning of Said Act & hereof fail not upon penalty as by Said Act is directed Given under our hands and Seals in Albany the Twenty Second day of July in the Seventeenth year of his Majesties reign 1743

JN^O DE PEYSTER [Seal]

PHIL LIVINGSTON JUN^R.¹ [Seal]

¹ Philip Livingston jr, signer of the Declaration of Independence, born 1716 at Albany, died 1778 at York, Pa., commissioner of Indian affairs 1742-45.

BOND WITH JUDGMENT FROM GEORGE SWAN

D. S.

Know all Men by these presents that I George Swan of Albany, in the County of Albany, and Province of New York Trader am holden and firmly bound unto William Johnson of Mount Johnson in the County & Province aforesaid Merchant, in the Sum of five hundred thirty nine pounds four Shillings & 8 pence Current Lawful money of the Colony of New York, to be paid to the Said W^m. Johnson, his Certain Attorney, Executors, Adm^{rs}., or Assigns, to the which payment well & truly to be made & done, I bind myself my heirs Execu^{rs}. & Adm^{rs}. firmly by these presents, Sealed wth. my Seal & dated this first Day of August In the 17th. year of his Majesties Reign, Annoque Domini 1743

The Condition of this Obligation is such that if the above bounden George Swan his heirs Execu^{rs}. or Adm^{rs}. Shall well and truly pay or Cause to be paid unto the above named W^m. Johnson, his Certain Attorney, heirs, Execu^{rs}. or Adm^{rs}. the Just and full Sum of two Hundred & Sixty nine pounds twelve & four pence Current Money aforesaid, and that on or before the first Day of May now next Ensueing the date hereof, without fraud Covin or further delay, then this obligation to be void, and of none Effect, otherwise to be and remain in full force and virtue.

GEORGE SWAN [Seal]

Signed Sealed and Delivered

in the presence of us:

Dan^l: CoughlanW^m. Printy Jun

To Joseph Murray, W^m. Smith, John Chambers, Evert Wendall, Gilbert Livingston, & Edward Collins. Gentlemen Attorneys at Law, or any other Attorney at Law within the Province of New York, these are to request and authorize you or any of you the Persons above named, or any other Attorney at Law, in Court of record in the s^d. Province to appear for me in any of the s^d. Courts at any time after the date hereof, at the suit of

W^m. Johnson in an action of Debt on a bond for two Hundred and Sixty nine pounds twelve and four pence to receive a Declaration against me for the aforesd Sum, and thereupon Confess Judgement and Suffer it to pass and be entered up against me by Non Sum Informatus Nihil dicit, or otherwise for the above mentioned Sum, besides Cost of Suit in any of the Courts afores^d. and this to you or any or Either of You Shall be y^r Sufficient Warrant, Witness my hand, & Seal this first Day of August in the 17th year of his Majesties Reign.
annoqz Domini 1743.

GEORGE SWAN [Seal]

Signed Sealed & Delivered

in the presence of us:

Dan^l. Coughlan.

W^m. Printy Jur

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Bond wth. Judgement from George
Swan. Condⁿ. £ 269 . . 12 . . 4

FROM SUSAN WARREN¹

A. L. S.

New York April y^e 21st 1744

D^r. BILLY

I rec^d y^r favour this day, of y^e 2^d of aprill & one before, which I should have answerd, but my sore afflictions made me incapable. the Loss of my two Dear Children hangs still very heavy on me, as does the Loss of your mother, whose Death I much Lement. I have a leter from y^r. Father, who says she dyed ye 26th of January of a tedious decay occasioned by a Cholick and ague, he complains that you dont write to him, I am an unfit person at present to mention this malencholy affair to y^u, for I have not spirits to give y^u any Comfort but I hope allmighty God the great disposer of all things will Comfort you I had

¹ The wife of Sir Peter Warren, British admiral, was Susan DeLancey, sister of Chief Justice James DeLancey.

a leter from y^r uncle last week who I thank God was well y^e 6th of march & I expect him soon, so can only add that I wish you all health & prosperity & be assured I am w^t sincerety

Y^r affectionate aunt,

S WARREN

My 2 litle girls are very well

ADDRESSED: For M^r William Johnson att Albany

TO EDWARD COLLINS

A. L. S.

Mount Johnson May 29th 1744

M^R COLLINS

S^R.

I desire the favour you will let me know whether you have done in that affair concerning the Certiorari, as you promised me, and whether I cant Stay at home next Court, only send the Serv^{ts}. down because I cant well go from the house, there will be so many Indians comeing down which in my absence would be apt to do a great deal of Mischief. Y^r. Answer will oblige S^r. Y^r. Most Humble Serv^t.

W^M. JOHNSON

INDORSED¹: Given to me at Utica,

February 11, 1871 by Governor Seymour

FROM THOMAS BUTLER

A. L. S.

<Oswego, Sept. 16th, 1744>

<DEAR SIR

I wrote> you a few Days <ago & the bearer, of this who> was then Going home <but since has return'd. I gave> you some Small acc^t. of the French being on their way hith^r. but find since <it hath been> a false Alarm. I dont now in the least <suspect> that this place will be atacked, as <the Five> Nations Seem to have it at Heart.

¹ In an unknown hand.

I wrote to you for a battoe of <Goods> which I hope you'll please to send me this fall. I woud not have entred more than half the rum. I thought it wou'd be inconvenient for you to Send two Battoes. So have now wrote to Albany for one. As I dont fear selling y^m. both I owe Hend^k. Hanson for his trip in y^e. Spring, if you can pay him in your way Shall be oblided to you. if your Goods Shou'd be Come over wou'd have you to send me such things as is fitting for winter for Indians. My fath^r. Desires his Humbl^l. Servis to you. I am D^r. Sir

y^r. Most obed^t. Serv^t.

THO^s. BUTLER

Blanketts are Dear however
pray send a p^s. of a 4 y^d. p^s.

ON VERSO: To Miss Mary Butler¹
att the Mohawks Country

FROM THOMAS BUTLER

A. L. S.

Oswego Sept^r. 23:1744

DEAR SIR

Since my last nothing of moment has happen'd here. I wrote to you for some Goods which I hope wont fail comeing, as I think here will be no danger from Our Neighbours the french. I hope You'll not forgett me about the Cagg butter. I must beg the favour you'll furnish both battoe[s] with meet. I have wrote to M^r. Stevenson for 2 baggs bread you'l pleas to Send me An invoice of all the things now, and what I had before youl pleas to Consult with My Broth^r. about the hands. My Fath^r. desires His Humble Servis to You. all are well here but will I fear very Soon want provisions. I conclude

Dr Sr y^r. Obliged Frind and Humbl^l. Serv^t.

THO^s. BUTLER

¹ This letter was probably sent first to Mary Butler, inclosed with other letters.

Pleas To Send me 200 of yr. role tobacco or more. I need it much.

ADDRESSED: Mr. William Johnson,
Merch^t. att Mount Johnson

FROM EDWARD HOLLAND

A. L. S.

<New York, January y^e 15th 1744/5>

<D^R SIR>:

I have your favour <of y^e 28th past with your two> Letters for London which <I have forwarded, and have also agreeable to your request bought a fine> Bolting Cloth for you <and at a fine price, To witt> Seven pounds as you will See by the <Inclosed bill> of Parcells, I Chaffer'd as much, as if it <had been for> my self. You Say you are Sorry I Sold your <Skins> as they are rising & that Mr. Duane sold <some of> the same sort for 4/3 if they were of the <same sort,> he has not let the People that bought them <see> them, for I do ashure you those I had were Exceeding bad. Mr. Duane was Present when I sold them <& not> for money neither. I shall according to your Desire <send> the bolting Cloth by the post & shall Let you <at> the foot of this know what you must pay for it, I Just now Sent for the Post, but he was not at home. I have sent to Boston for the News paper, the Philadelphia Post, (the last time he Came) left the Paper behind him. I now send you the New York Evening post,¹ which I have only taken for you yesterday, the other papers as they Come to hand & opportunitys offer Shall Send them you. Wheat Sells now from 3/1 to 3/3 p^r. bushell; Pease ab^t. 3/6 p^r. bushell. Your Uncle Warren is arrived at Barbadoes & in his way theither has taken Two French Privateers. Cap^t. Frankland has taken a Spanish

¹ Published by Henry DeForest, *Memorial History of the City of New York*, 4:136.

Ship worth as its Said Two hundred thousand pounds Sterling & Carried her to South Carolina. this at present is all the News Stirring Except of the Terrible Hurricane that was lately at Jamaica Mentioned in the paper. I Salute you & wish you a great many happy New Years & Conclude,

Sr: Your most humble Serv^t.

ED^d: HOLLAND

P. S. agreed for 12 sh^s. for the
Bolting Cloth

ADDRESSED: <To Mr. William Johnson Merch^t
Near the Mohawk Country
To be Left with Serg^t. Miller At Albany.>

FROM EDWARD COLLINS

A. L. S.

Albany ye. 16th Jan^{ry} 1744/5

D^r S^r.

Councillor Curry has applyed to Our Clerk for a Copy of the proceedings in Your Action Ag^t him, Sayes he'll work Wonders, remove it to N. York & get Back his money, of All which I am in no Shape at the Least apprehensive, but an A—s will bray, however this as a Caution to you to be Carefull of all your papers relating the Action Especially one Lett^r in particular.

I am D^r S^r Y^r to serve

ED: COLLINS

ADDRESSED: To William Johnson at Mount Johnson

JOHN RUTHERFURD TO WALTER BUTLER

A. L. S.

F^t William Jan: 31st 1744/5

SIR

I'm glad to see by yours to the Commissioners that all seems well with you at Oswego. I desire you'll send me down by first opportunity an account of Arms Stores &c that you have now in

the Garrison with your opinion of what may further needfull there, that I may be able to fullfill the Governours instructions for my preparing an Estimate of what reparations & stores are necessary for the Garrisons in this County to be laid befor the Council & Assembly this Spring: if you can have no other opportunity and any soldier offer to come down allow them, which I fancy may happen upon being assured he shan't be obliged to return. I beg my Compliments to Cap^t Lindesay, Doctor Ker, your Son & all acquaintances with you & am Sir

Your most obed^t humble servant

JOHN RUTHERFURD

ADDRESSED: On His Majesty's Service To Captain Butler at Oswego

INDORSED: Cap^t. John Rutherford, Fort William, to Cap^t. Butler, Oswego, calling for an account of arms Stores, &c

TO EDWARD COLLINS¹

FROM EDWARD COLLINS

A. L. S.

D^R S^R

Albany y^e 15 Mar 1744/5

I r^d yours by your man, ye usage you have met with it deserves resentment and as I have told you before and y^t so often over & over that I Cannot See those Gentⁿ Can in any shape oblige you to pay their Costs, Without Some speciall promise or undertakeing of y^r. Own which you will and always have denyed to me. As to y^r. Beaswax, Miller as your factor is Answerable to you if he Acts Contrary to y^r. orders, but I believe the best way will be to Sue Livingston in y^r. Name. Your man pressing me to be going I have now not time Enough to Consult my Books thoroughly which shall be done before you Come down. I shall fall upon it today; I have Currey's Lett^r safe. I don't think you should trouble your head about what he writes. he has no business with you

¹ See letter to Collins, page 451, which should be here. It was erroneously dated in the Burton collection. See also first letter in appendix to this volume.

but to pay you for what he owes the sword especially. I shall say no more till we have a Meeting which wish may be soon. Mean while believe me to be yours to serve and am

Y^r. most humble S^r.

ED COLLINS

When you come down remember my Nelsons Justice, I suppose you dont use it much & I have none of the [sort?]

ADDRESSED: To W^m. Johnson att Mount Johnson

FROM EDWARD HOLLAND¹

A. L. S.

<Albany, April 6th 1745>

SIR

I have since I came <home overlooked> all my papers about the Curacoa <Acc^{ts}. but> cannot find them I have either lost them <or mislaid> them. We have an Acc^t that the Em<perour is> dead what turn that will give to <Affairs in> Europe is uncertain. Captain Warren is expected to be on this New England <Expedition.> Cap^t. Rutherford is expected up <hourly with> his family I am Sir

Your <most h^{ble}. Serv^t.

ED^d. HOLLAND>

Post S: Since my writing the above Cap^t Rutherford is come & has bro't Cap^t Butlers Commission with him for Comissary & one for you <to be> a Justice of the Peace he <says> the Gov^r. is to be here <this Summer.>

ADDRESSED: <To M^r. William Johnson, Merchant, at Mount Johnson.>

¹ Edward Holland held offices as mayor of Albany, commissioner of Indian affairs, member of the council and a mayor of New York.

JOHN RUTHERFURD TO WALTER BUTLER

A. L. S.

Albany 9th Aprile, 1745

TO CAPT BUTLER

SIR

I had the pleasure of yours of the 7 of March while I was at New York & delivered yours to The Governour; He thought the few things you write for as necessary at present for the Garrison may be supplied from Albany out of the money allowed for incidents, soe I shall talk with Mr Philip Livingston Junr & Mr De Peister about them and see what money they have left of it in their hands. As to Rum, Pipes &c I desired The Governour would try to get The Assembly to settle some yearly sum for that purpose & shall put him in mind of it when I write to him next, but whither he may succeed will be uncertain, For the Assembly seems ill disposed to raise money at present almost on any account. I arrived here only yesterday from New York & write you this in a hurry that I mayn't lose this opportunity of sending you up your Commissions of Peace & Commissary that I brought from New York. The Boston expedition against Cape Breton bids fair for success The New England people were embarked The Connecticut people just a goeing & Capt Warren in a sixty Gun ship with two fourty Gun ships &c. in his way from the West Indies to join them. The Emperor's¹ Deathe & change of Ministry in England² will no doubt furnish us with much news next ships. I shall ask Mr. Stevenson for Smith's order & pay it him. Serjt. Trivet & three more of my Men wrote for some little trifles. I have given their letter to the Mayor who will send them by first opportunity. I should be Glad to hear from you that you don't desire to be relieved yourself next Fall

¹ Charles VII, Emperour of the Holy Roman Empire.

² November 24, 1744 John Carteret, Earl of Granville, virtual head of the Wilmington ministry, left when it was reorganized under Pelham.

& please write me which of His Excellency's Men & Mine desires to be relieved & who will willingly stay another Year.
I am Sir

Your most obed^t Serv^t,

JOHN RUTHERFURD

INDORSED: Cap^t. Jn^o. Rutherford 1745.

JOHN RUTHERFURD TO WALTER BUTLER

A. L. S.

Albany 25th Aprile 1745.

SIR

I have received yours of the 13th Inst & Kelley is accordingly arriv'd. I wish you had kept him & punished him at Oswego for his Insolence to the Officers, as to his religion he professes himself of the Church of England w^{ch} is enough to us Soe long as his Conversation or Actions don't show the Contrary. I'm sorry you should want so many now of the Detachment at Oswego but as A part if not the whole must be relieved by August next 'tis not worth to reinforce you unless The Governour orders me to whom I have wrote about it. I gave Phil: Livingston, Jun^r my last letters to forward to you by Tydie, in which I inclosed your Commission of Peace & order to be Commissary which I hope came safe to hand. I expect You'l Chuse to Continue another year or soe as I'm persuaded 'twill be more advantage to you than Fort Hunter. Let me know how many of the Men belonging to Albany will chuse to stay & whom you desire to have relieved. If you Continue at Oswego write me if I should put your son on the rolls again porting him on your party at Oswego where I reckon he will be coming & goeing while you remain there. I have given the Note of Necessarys for the Garrison You wrote for to Mess^{rs} De Peyster and Livingston who will send you what they can get of them here by next opportunity except Powder & ball. If Trivet misbehaves why dont you punish him
I am sir

Your most obed^t humble servt

JOHN RUTHERFURD

ADDRESSED: To Captain Butler Commandant at Oswego.

FROM EDWARD COLLINS

A. L. S.

*Sunday Afternoon [May 26, 1745]*D^R. S^R

I have Wrote You before for our side Concerning y^e people near you, but at present I must press you to write a Letter to Harme Grote, Cornelis Grote & Joh^s: Veeder to Vote Arent Bratt In this Election & pray Send a Lett^r by the barer to those people to that purpose, I send the barer on purpose & I am S^r

Y^{rs} Always

ED COLLINS

N B here is news from boston which is to be credited that the strongest forte at Cabetoon¹ is taken.

N B the Election here is y^e 14th. of June, at Albany I can't tell P S a Line to Gerrit V. Antwerpe your taylor will do good E. C.

ADDRESSED: To M^r. William Johnson This

FROM PIETER VAN ALLEN AND ROBERT SANDERS²*Albany May 27 1745*M^R: WILLIAM JOHNSONS^R:

I Arrived here the day before Yesterday & According To my promise I send you these lines to let you know that wheat sells in York from 3/4 to 3/6 ⌘ Bushell Common flour 10/ ⌘ C^t: Super fine from 13/ to 15/ ⌘ C^t: pease 4/6 ⌘ Bushell for your Governm^t: I will Begin to take in your flour This afternoon or tomorrow morning In order to sail by wednesday or tuesday Next if you have any Commands for me please to let <me> know by that time as for News we have that y^e Royall Batery at Cape Brittone is Taken & in The English possession is the present needful from who am

S^r: Y^r: most obliged Hum: Serv^t:

PIETER VAN ALLEN

¹ Cape Breton [?].

² L. S. of Van Allen and A. L. S. of Sanders.

P: S: no News of our Last fall London Ships arrival we have news from London 7 weeks after they Sailed from here & not one of ye three was then yet arrived God Sends & give us the Best I hope. 11 o Clock Just now arrived yr: first wagons with pease Please to accept my offers of service from

Sr: Yr: Hum: Servt:

ROBT: SANDERS

ADDRESSED: To Mr: William Johnson Merch^t: at or Near
fort Hunter Tugthenonda ¹ These
¶ Mr: Koster

QDC²

FROM EDWARD HOLLAND

A. L. S.

<New York, June ye 7th 1745>

DEAR SIR:

I Rec^d yours of ye <20th past, with the Hogsh^d of Peltry> & bundle of Skins which <are Shipt on board of the> Antelope, who I dont believe will Sail <this Month,> Mr Walters being Determin'd not <to let her go 'till> he Can have 2 or 3 opportunitys to write home for Insurance. You forgot to set down <the mark> & number of them in your Letter, as I <would always> have you do. I have Stored your flower <as there is> no freight to be had at Present for Cura<coa or any> where Else Except for Ten Ton to Jama<ica which> I had Engag'd for my Self in a fine <Barmuda Sloop> before your flower Came down. I shall keep <mine> out & send yours. I would not have you for the future send such a large Quantity together nor above Eight or Ten Ton at a Time, freight being Scarse at Present, nither would I have you Confine me to any Particular Market, as they very frequently Vary You may

¹ Chuctenunda, W. M. Beauchamp, *Aboriginal Place Names of New York*, p. 122, 127.

² Quem Deus Conducat.

rest assured that I shall Consult your Interest in the same Manner as I would my own therefore would have you to Let me Judge for you in that Case where to send it to The next flower you send mark them on the Bilge in this manner N. WI. . 1 & so forth, the Tare on the head thus ¹T⁸. The brand also on the bilge towards one of the Ends which is the Common Method.

I now send you 20 magazines, Cost Twenty Shill^s. & your News Papers which Contain all thats Stirring Except that we had an acc^t yesterday by a Sloop from Rhode Island that Commodore Warren has taken off of Cape Britton a French Sixty Gun Ship with a Thousand Barrl^s. of Powder & 800 Men we make no doubt but the acc^t. is true & I hope we shall have the Confirmation of it to Morrow by the Post. I wish you Prosperity & am Yours &c.

ED^d. HOLLAND

P. S. There is one barr^l. of the flower wanting, which I suppose Peter Left behind him. Your interest in the <com>ing election at Shonectady for a Representative is Desir'd for your hum<ble> Serv^t.

E. H.

ADDRESSED: <To Mr. William Johnson Merch^t at Mount Johnson>

JOHN RUTHERFURD TO WALTER BUTLER

A. L. S.

Albany 11th June 1745

SIR

Yours of the 30th of May came to hand yesterday, by which I'm glad to see you live in a good Correspondence with all the Indians & that trade goes so well on. I would only advise you not to give too many presents to these Indians in hopes of being repaid, for the last Assembly seemed so little disposed to Grant money either for the Interest or honour of the Country that there's

no trusting to the next untill we once see what Men are chosen. Mess^{rs} De Peyster and Livingston who are to send the Necessarys you wrote for excuse their not haveing sent them, from their haveing been obliged to send for Grinding stones &c. from New York. I observe what you write to Doctor Shuckburgh & have not the least doubt but the Governour will continue you Commissary as long as you remain at Oswego, for when I asked for your last Commission he ordered it to be wrote out directly & said he was resolv'd himself to give it you befor ever he was spoke to about it & seemed resolved The officer here should always have it.

I desire you would write His Excellency yourself relateing to whatever you think properest about relieving the party under your Command, for I shall doe nothing relateing to A garrison at so great a distance, that it can't be supposed 'tis in my power to take any charge or care of, without His Excellency's Express orders in every particular. I have no doubt but the Next Assembly will impower the Governor to come up here in August when he will probably give orders about all affairs of that kind; But should we be successful in reducing Cape Breton which, (after takeing A Battery upon an Island in the entry into the Harbour & The Grand Battery opposite The Harbours Mouth, both which we are now in possession of) I don't doubt but we shall soon have accounts of, & should some more ships & Men arrive from England as expected, I shall desire you may be relieved that I may have your assistance in case of any thing to be done this way. I am Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

JOHN RUTHERFURD..

ADDRESSED: To Lieutenant Walter Butler Commandant at
Oswego

INDORSED: Cap^t. Rutherford June 1745 Letter.

FROM SILVESTER FERRALL

A. L. S.

[Halifax, June 16, 1745]

[]
 to any of []
 I make bo []
 you will be kind enough []
 I wrote you in my former []
 at Boston, and likewise what []
 And that I had not gott into any []
 of a New Governor been expected [ho] []
 for this place, so that till he ariv[]lyhood
 of any buisness been Carry'd o[n] []ing,
 for as the present Governor is making []
 his return to London everything in this pla[]
 a stand, As for my part I have not ern'd one []
 since I came to the Colloney, Yet I did everything []
 power to gett into some kind of buisness in []
 gett an honest and genteel livelyhood, its true []
 had several promisses, and Still have the Same []
 Several of the gentlemen here, that as soon a[]
 of the Kings woorks begins to go forward, that I s[]
 be provided for, that's fullfilling the old Pr[]
 Live horse and y^u. shall gett grass, so that I Cant expect any
 relief till Such time as Coll: Hopson¹ []the New
 Governor Arives, and then but a Chance, for tis generally the
 Custom with New Governors to hav[e] followers, You may
 belive that I am a good deal in debt for my dyet and lodging
 Since I ariv'd here which is neer nine months, besides washing
 and other Expencess, so that if I be not reliv'd in a short time, I
 Shall be oblig'd to Sell my Cloaths and return to New:York, I
 am inform'd by Several in this place that there is two Gentlemen
 of my Name that Lives at Monseratt, they have great Planta-

¹ Peregrinus Thomas Hopson.

tions, and are vastly rich and Keep a great Number of Negroes and has no Children, they likewise inform me that they Came from Waterford in Irland, they advise me to go to them, and that I need not fear been well provided for, I have often herd my father Say that he had a brother and two Nephews that went from Irland when Young and that they were Setl'd in Some of the Island^s. there about so that its like it may happen to be some of their Children, If I had where with to go there I dont doubt but it might turn to my advantage, but I shall wait y^r. advise what I shall do in this affair, M^r Cartright Informs me that you have Setled y^r. affairs in New York to your Satisfaction, the which gave me pleasure []

[] [] in know other [wise]
but by your advise [] ise y^u.
made me at parting [] I wou'd
Send a parcel of flower &c []
dependence on any ^{or} son in America []
[] our, I Conclude with my best wishes for []
and remain sr

Y^r. Oblig'd, Sincere, well wish^r. and huble Serv^t. to Command

SILV^R. FERRALL

ADDRESSED: To The Hon^{ble}. Will^m. Johnson Esq^r. at Mount
Johnson, at the Mohocks in the County of Albany
To be forwarded by M^r. Henry Hanson Merch^t. at New York

FROM ROBERT SANDERS

A. L. S.

<Albany June 19 1745>

<M^R. WILLIAM JOHNSON,>

S^R.

Your <Kind favour of yesterday I have this> Day received and am Sorry I had <not the honour of seeing you> at my house when you was last in Town. <My honoured father> Had alrady as well as y^r. favour acquainted <me

thereof But > Hope whenever your Business Calls you < again
to Town & > you pleased to honour me with y^r. Visit, That
< I may be at > Home, His Majesties writ of Subpœna did at
that < time > Require me to be at Dutches County to appear
there ye < 11 Inst. > Before the Chief Justice, who I heard say
that he had rec^d. a < Letter > Very Lately then from Mad^m:
Warren who wrote that she < had > Lately rec^d. a Letter of
Comondore Warren, who wrote her < that they > Had taken a
french Ship of 64 Guns Richly laden with < amunition > and
2 or 3 Years pay for the Soldiers at Canada & Cape Breton &
That he hoped to be with her in Boston within a month.

We have further News here that the french & Spanyards Have
Declared warr against the Duch w^{ch}: Is Very apparent & if So
the General oppenion of Experient Treadors Is that flower &
wheat must then fall Considerable for your Governm^t if not True
then will flour sell well in y^e. west Indians at Curacoa flower is
at present 2 Styv & 17d^{tes}¹ ₤ II in Jamica 35/ Common & fine
45/ to 50/ the Bar^l. fine price But great Risque. In New York
the prise of wheat & flour Continues But Very low Small pease
4/3 & Large 4/6 the Extent Believe wont sell so this Trip.

I am thankfull & much obliged to you for y^r. kind offer to Join
in Trade with you at this time, But assure you Is as my father
Told you that I am Bear of Indian Goods at this time & Do not
Expect Many this year, Since we in General almost Sustained
a Considerable Loss in Cap^t. Griffiths, for my part I did pritty
Considerable & hope not so at y^r. side for it falls hard, &
observed you stood or would Stand in Need of 200 Dollars if I
Could furnish you therewith, In answer Thereto I say, Send as
soon as you want them, by a Secure hand & I shall send them to
you if I hant then I will provide them for you I have sent to a
friend in York to Exchange me some ₤ Van Allen & have some
In the house too But are partly Engaged with 2 Treadors here
to furnish them Each with 100 or two at half proffitt & would
fullfill my promise to Them, However send as soon as you want

¹ The signs used apparently refer to Dutch coins, the stuiver and duit.

them by a Secure hand and they shall be sent you By him who offers to you the <Best> of his Service here & Remains with kind Salutation to you and all y^{rs}. Sr.

Y^r. most Hum: Serv^t.

ROBT. SANDERS

<P: In hast. ye bearer on ye>wing if you should want more let know

ADDRESSED: To Mr. William Johnson Merch^t: at Mount Johnson, These $\pounds$ Q:D:C:

FROM EDWARD HOLLAND

A. L. S.

New York June ye 25th. 1745

DEAR SIR.

I rec^d. yours with M^{rs} Warren's Inclosed, which I shall forward with the Cask of Burks by the first opportunity. The two hogshd^s you mention are on board of the Antelope, the bare skins not yet. Bryant may be Expected Every day. It's not known wheither Knox will come here or no. I have shipt all your flower to Jamaica, where I think is the best Markett & Least Danger. I hope you will approve of it, for my own part I don't ship to any other place at Present [*but*]. All the news that's Stirring you will finde in the Inclosed Papers. I finde there has been tough work at Shonectady. I am sorry you was Pre-engaged. I hope Still to Defeat my Antagonist, for I have this day sent up a Petition to the house [*for*] to have a Scrutiny. Pray let me know what I must do with the ropes you sent down & believe that I am Sr.

Your most ob^t Serv^t

ED^d: HOLLAND.

ADDRESSED: To Mr William Johnson Merch^t. at Mount Johnson To be Left with Serg^t. Miller at Albany

FROM EDWARD HOLLAND

A. L. S.

[*New York, June 1745*]

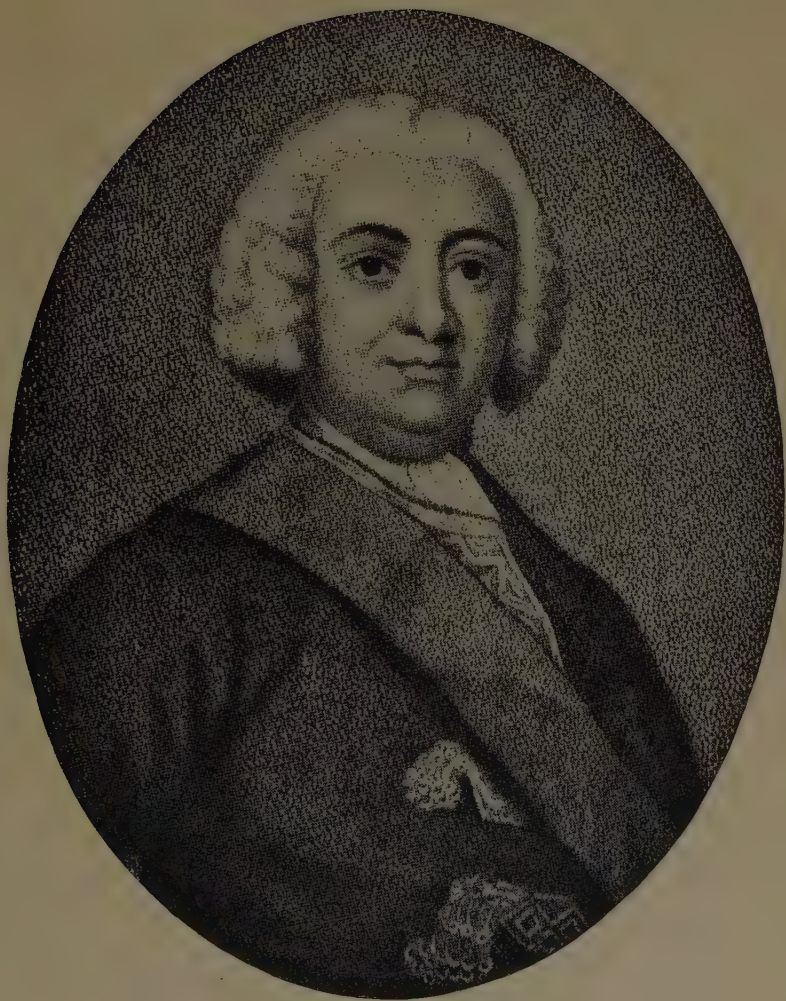
I rec'd yours of y^e. 18th. past p^r. Peter Van Alen with the flower, which I think is very good & hope will arrive so at Curacao, where I have sent it on my own acc^t. and have recommended it in the Strongest Manner for a good Character. I have allowed you nine shill^s. a hundred, which is the highest price for any flower that has not got an Establish'd reputation. Inclosed you have an order on my Brother for the money. Your method of drawing your Weigh note is wrong, flower is always sold by the gross hundred so that the next you weigh must be according to y^e. Inclosed Sketch. I have at last sold your Deer skins at Three Shill^s. & three pence p^r. If many of them being very ordinary.

Bryant is arrived from London but brings no material news but what is in the papers, which I send to my Brother, who will forward them to you with this, the other Ships are hourly Expected, they were out of the Channel before Bryant with Convoy. Cap^t. Rutherford & his Lady are on board Griffiths. Pray let me know wheither you have had a minde for the Boston & Philadelphia news papers. If you have I shall take them for you. Wheat sells now here for 3/1 p^r. bushell & pease at 2/9; wheither it will rise or no I can't say, but if any alteration happens shall acquaint you therewith. I wish you health & remain,

Dear Sir, Your humble Serv^t.ED^d: HOLLAND.

ADDRESSED: To Mr William Johnson Merchant at
The Mohawks Country

To the care of Henry Holland Esq^r Albany



SIR PETER WARREN

FROM JOHN DE PEYSTER

A. L. S.

Aug^t. 15. 1745

MR. JOHNSON
SR.

As my Son in Law Mr Volkert douw the bearer hereof Desires in a few days for boston & from thence if opertunity offers for Cape britton, Wherefor I begg the favour of you to give him a Letter of recommendation & of Credit to Cap^t Warren if he Should have occasion for any, & what he Shall So receive I Shall be answerable to Cap^t Warren or his order on Sight, or remitt it him in what he thinks proper. In which you'll much obledge, Sr.

Your humb Sarv^t.

JN^o DE PEYSTER

ADDRESSED: To Mr. William Johnson Merch^t.
In the Mohaks Conty

FROM JOHN CATHERWOOD

A. L. S.

New York [September 5, 1745]

DR SIR

There is one Jane Watson come from Your part of the Country who says she lived with You a servant, & is come now to this City, & this day has hired herself to His Ex^{ys}. Lady.

As she is a stranger she refers herself to you for a Character, & I beg Youl be so good to be genuine in it, with respect to her honesty & behaviour while with you. She says she came from Ireland a young Girl with her Uncle one Macky who lives [] Philadelphia. I beg You'l send me an Answer as soon as possible & believe me very truly Sir

Your most Obed^t. Hble Servant

JN^o. CATHERWOOD

The Commodore has had great success in Captures at Louisburg. His share at least will be above £20,0000 [?]

TO JOHN ROBERTS

A. L. S.¹

[²]
 Sent the o[]
 Castles, in order []
 Indians as would []
 Service, and have []
 []
 down Some of whom []
 & Supplied wth Everything requi[]
 for Such an Undertaking []
 is now lost, and So m[]
 disapointments as thy meet wth []
 Make them [] [interest?] in the []
 Moreover the french Indians [y]ou know are ever busay wth
 them & will now have time enough to Instill Severall th[ings]
 Into them which may be of [vast diss]ervice However I shall
 endeavour all in my pow[er] to keep them [] ead fast as
 possible and give them but little rest [] till thy do some
 thing that will sett [them &] the French & their Indians by the
 Ears, w^h I hope will be done now by those [party?]s I have
 and [w^h.?] I Expect back in a few [d]ays. When I told You
 in Albany that Captⁿ: Shafers Con^y. would not be Sufficient for
 the Defense of these frontiers, I belive you remember []
 that you told me upon application you would send up, what was
 Deficient of 100 Men, beside his Excelley ordered the Same,
 Now this is to Acquaint you that there is not above half that
 number here in all [] herfore would desire the favour of
 you to send [] remd^r. w^h I think [] requisite for the
 Service of those [] and Settlements. Whenever there
 is occasion

¹ The upper right-hand corner of the manuscript is burned off and the rest is very faint. The manuscript is calendared 1745, Oct. 24.

² Line or lines missing.

(The following is written in the margin)

for any Indians to go down I should be glad of timely notice for it requires some time to Call them together liveing far distant from Each other, and on such Occasions thy must all Consult together being their Custom. I am

Sr. Yr. Verry Humble Serv^{nt}.

W^M JO[HNSON]

FROM WARREN JOHNSON

A. L. S.

<Portsmouth, Novembr^r ye. 5th 1745.>

MY D^R BRO

I am to acquaint you <that my Uncle> Warren, and Cozen Terrell <have sent for> me; and I am come to Portsmouth; <and> intend sailing every day in the Kinsale man of war Appointed as convoy to a Fleet of transports bound for Cape Breton; The Cap^{ts} name is Lofting; and has receivd his orders for sailing the first fair wind; I can not readely express the trouble and concern it has given my father and all of us that we had not received one letter from you but one these four years I beg D^r Bro; you will write to him oftner; it's reported here that my Uncle and his Lady are comeing home in the Superbe; but I hope it's not true; I beg D^r. Bro; you will write to me to Cape Breton; the Cap^t. of the Kinsale says wee not get to Cape Breton this winter by ration of the frost; we will get to New york; So that I hope I Shall see you there. I conclude, My D^r bro;

y^r ever loveing and Most Aff^{et}: bro:

WARREN JOHNSON

ADDRESSED: To M^r William Johnson
at Mount Johnson in the County
of Albany

FROM JAMES WILLSON

A. L. S.

Albany, Nov^r. [26, 1745]M^R JOHNSONS^R

These are to aquaint yo[u] that [] well att
 Present []ng these [] In the Same
 fa[ther] and moulder [] To Come Downe and
 Live here this [winter] Till These Troublesom Times is a
 Little [] they have kept a Room a porpus for you
 a[nd] they beg that you would Send Down the bes[t] of your
 Things Directley & there is Room anouf for your Servants If
 you will bring them Down I would not have you to stay there
 for the french have told our Indi[ans] that they will have you
 Dead or alive [] that you are a Reallation of
 Captin War[ren] thier Great adveserey therefore I beg tha[t]
 will not be too Stout If you will not [] Down your
 Self beg that you would Sen[d] your boocks & papers and
 the best of yo[] I have this Day put the flower a
 board of [] Peter van alen I Send you here with
 the Mageseens pray Dont fail of Comeing Down father &
 moulder Joyns In Sending their Kind Love and Servis to you
 which is all att present from your most Hmbl Servent

JAMES WILLSON

ADDRESSED: To William Johnson Esq^r

att Mount Johnson

and To be forwarded by M^r. Craigg In Schanactedy

These

FROM ROBERT SANDERS

A. L. S.

<Albany, Novemb, 28 1745>

<M^R WILLIAM JOHNSON:S^R

I have rec^d. your favour of the 23 Instant p^r the > Bearor
 hereof. In obedience <to your Request therein shall> herein

give you as Brief & true <Acco^t of that Unfortunate affair> which hapened on the 17¹ Instant at Sarag<htogue. As I am Every> Other Night & day on the watch & my <house full people so> That I Cannot be at Large herein Vizt: <At Break of day or> an hour or two Before Day a Number of 400 French <& 220> Indians appeared & did Besett all the houses there, <Burnt &> Destroyed all that Came before them Left only one Sawmill Standing w^{ch}. stood a Little out their way it seems, took along with them such Booty as they thought fit, Kilt & took Captives 100 or 101 persons Black & white I guise the Black most all prisoners & the Number of them Exceeds the Number of the white The Unfortunate Cap^t. Philip Schuyler was Kilt In this Barborous Action they say Certain true. hop<e> He may Rather Be prisoner the Latter is not Believe<d>

And as to Indian Blankets I have not one p^s Neither Can I hear of any in town But 3/4 Garlix I have a few pieces of w^{ch} would send you his But the prise You Limitt is 50/ for w^{ch} I Cannot afford them as the worst or Sheapest sort is alrady sold, So that if you should Like of £3 & £3:5 p^s: I Believe have some in Shop & will Send it you if you please to let know, The people here are affraid for a french Army this winter & have sent down a Bundance of goods to York so that some shops in town are Bare of goods a good many women are also gone down to Live this winter In York at Prsent some what in hast my Honoured father & self Join with our Kind Love & Respects to you I Remain S^r

Your friend well wisher & Very Humble Servant.

ROB^t: SANDERS

ADDRESSED: To M^r: William Johnson Merchant
at Mount Johnson
☿ Q. D. C.

¹ Old style.

FROM JOHN LYNE

A. L. S.

Lyneberry Feby y^e 25 1745/6

SIR

Your favour of ffeb: y^e 18 I rec^d: yesterday wth: the Canister of tea & the Doactors Inclosd.

Return you thanks fer y^e news you write Me & likewise fer y^e Nuse paper w^{ch}: I Should have returnd but have sent it to M^r Dunlap wth: your Servis. I give you Joye of Admaril Warrin being Knighted believe it is verely agreeable to M^{rs} Warrin fer all Ladys Love Honnor as to the admaril being g—— of N——¹ I heartyly wish it May be So & by what you Inform me am fully satisfyd it will be So & hartlye Joyne in your good wishes y^t he May first make a viset to Queaback for y^e good of us all & the honour of Amarica & I pray God it may be attind:d with Success.

The Doc^t has write to Me what Negros he has & the price of them, there is none y^t I like, but a boy about twelve years old w^{ch}: I think a Little two dear att £40 have wrote to y^e Doc^t: to Make best of his Markett of him if he is not Sold I Shall see him this Summer if I Like him posable we may agree fer him. Shall hire a Man to answer my present purpus and keep Bichalors Hall one year Longer as you have given Me fresh hopes of an Expeticion. I begin to have a fine tast & flatter my Self I Shall have an oppertunety of geeting a french Mademmosell for a Housekeeper in the Summer.

I am with the Best of wishes Due Esteem & Respect, Sir

Your Most Humble Servant

JN^o LYNE.

I have no news to write to you from this remote place only to acquaint you y^t I thought Since the Rebellion in Scotland y^e Devil had been a Scotah Man but I find him to be a Dutch man.

¹Governor of New York.

A few Days ago I happened to Call at Fry's ware the Constable had just Brought a Cart Loade of old Dutch People to Try them for wichis tho I Stayd but a few Minetts I hard the one Sware the other was a Devil if thare had been half y^e Reward fer takeing the Devil as thare is fer takeing y^e pretender I Sirtenly should have Layd holt of him as I thought I Should geet nothing by it I lett him a Lone; as I came away obsirvd y^e Justice Suming up his fees. Suppose after the Devil had payd them he Might go to Hell againe. No wendor if a Justice gets Rich when they try all Cases and the Devil Brings them money. Plese to forward the Inclosed and youl oblidge Me who have often tired your patience with talking & now have don it with writeing.

J. L.¹

FROM JOHANN LOUIS SCHRÖDEL ²

A. L. S.

Albany d[en] 28 Feb[ruar] [1746?]

INSONDERS HOCHGEEHRTER HERR:

Nach dessen Begehren sende. Hier Bey 2 glassgen Von die troppfels so gut als ich sie machen Kann: Hier Bey dienet zu wiessen den gebrauch dar Von. als ist die person stark oder schwach. dach Kann sie Morgends, undt abends. 20 tropffen in ein wenig wein ein nehmen: so sie Bey ihr selbst fuhlet. wass opertion es thut. Kann sie mehr oder weniger nehmen. auch so einige. Auffwerkung. Zwischen abend und Morgen gefuhlet wirdt; Kann es so wohl ein nehmen als Morgends undt abends;

¹Address faded.

²Schroedel is mentioned in Munsell's *Annals of Albany*, 1:243, where it is recorded that "Lowis Schredell" was buried from the Reformed Dutch Church December 26, 1746. In the *Year Book of the Holland Society of New York*, for 1906, 19:2, the marriage October 31, 1727 of Lod. Schreyder and Heyltie Van Woerd appears in records of the Reformed Dutch Church of Albany. Under dates, August 17, 1740 and January 12, 1746, p. 84 and 109, he appears as a sponsor in baptism. In the earlier record the form of his name is Johan Lewis Schrodel; in the later, Johan Lodewyk Schrattel.

ein glassgen kost 3 ss ist zu samen 6 ss: Vor den rest soll d[em]
H[errn] Credit geben. so Viel zur nach ruht als . . .

N. B. Von über bringer. Verbleib d[es] H[errn] D[ienst]

Hab ein stück silber. wiliger

geldt empfangen. soll

8 ss sein. so Kombt dem Herrn noch 2 ss

J: LOUIS SCHRÖDEL

ADDRESSED:

An

Mr Janson

Kauffmann

In

Maquas Landt

Translation

Albany, February 28 [1746?]

MOST HIGHLY HONORED SIR:

According to your request I am sending herewith 2 vials of the drops as well as I can make them. The following serves to let you know the use of them: 20 drops in a little wine may be taken morning and evening, whether the person is strong or weak. According as he himself feels what action it has, he can take more or less; also according as some action is felt between evening and morning. It can be taken both morning and evening. One vial costs 3 shillings, [that] is together 6 shillings. For what is left I shall give you credit, so much as still remains . . .¹

I remain your obedient servant

J: LOUIS SCHRÖDEL

N. B. From the messenger

I have received a

piece of silver money.

It amounts to 8 shillings.

So there is still coming to you 2 shillings.

ADDRESSED:

To

Mr Janson Merchant

In

Mohawk Country

¹ Dots are seemingly left to put in the balance.

FROM GEORGE SWAN

A. L. S.

Oswago March [6, 1746]

S^R.

I have not received []
 Post that went of from You []
 Know Wat to do I hope You will []
 The first Oppurtunety A leter how []
 Goods Are then I shall Know Wat to []
 To send me by the first Oppurtunity One []
 Kagg of butter and One Pownd of Good bohea [tea] I Du Not
 Think that there will be any [Great ?] Trade at Oswago this
 Year for the Most of the five Natisons are at home but Wat is
 a fight [] And the french will Keep the fare Indians
 [] Tumult by Reason that thay Could not Git
 [] Goods the Last Year and I do belive there
 [] be More this year but I Can always Sel a
 b[] To My Maits of the Five Nations but I Scha[ll]
 Not Send for Any Goods untill I Receive A Leter from You I
 hope You will Not fail To pay that Order in Money or Any
 thing Thay have a mind to take up from You If You du not
 Answer it I shall pay him In Money My Self In the Spring upon
 the Return of The Order I am Whel and In good Health
 Hoping Thes May find You In the Same I Remain

Your Most Humbel Servant

GEORGE SWAN

A PRICE CURRANT OF GOODS USUALLY IMPORTED AT LONDON
FROM AMERICA. LOND^o 22 MARCH 1745/6¹

Campeachy Logwood	per Ton	£12 or £13
Honduras Logwood	per Ton	9 — —
Brazeletto Wood	per Ton	8.5
Nicaragua Wood	per Ton	22 to £23
Fustick	per Ton	9 to £10
French Indigo	per lb.	3/6
Caracca Cocoa	per C. wt.	4.10 to £5
Piemento	per lb.	— — 7 ^d
Cotton Wool	per lb.	1/6
Pitch	per C. wt.	10/
Tar	per Barrel	15/
Turpentine	per C. wt.	12/ to 13/
Train Oil	per Ton	21.10
Ditto Vicious	per Ton	ab ^t 23
Whale Fins	per C. wt.	12 to £13
Rice	per C. wt.	16/ to 17/
Moscovado Sugar	per C. wt.	30/ to 40/
Pieces of Eight.	per oz.	5/2 to 5/3
Spa. heavy Pistoles of 4dwt. 8gr.	per pce.	ab ^t 16/6 to 16/8
Gold Sterling	per oz.	ab ^t 78/

A PRICE CURRANT OF GOODS USUALLY IMPORTED AT LONDON
FROM ALBANY. LOND^o 22 MARCH 1745/6

Beaver Coat	per lb.	} ab ^t 5/ to 4/6
Beaver Parchment	per lb.	
Indian Dress'd Deer Skins.	per lb.	3/2
Deer Skins in the Hair.	per Skin	5/ to 7/6
Bear Skins	per Skin	ab ^t 15/
Racoons	per Skin	1/8
Cats	per Skin	2/3
Otters	per Skin	8/
Grey Foxes	per Skin	2/4 to 2/6

¹ Printed form with the figures filled in.

Red Foxes	per Skin 3 to 3/3
Martins	per Skin 3/3
Fishers	per Skin 7/6
Wolves	per Skin 7/6 to 8/
Musquash	per Skin 6 1/2 ^d
Minks	per Skin 2/2,
Tar	per Barrel 15/ to 16/
Turpentine	per C. wt. abt 13/

TO JOHN CATHERWOOD

A. L. S.

D^R. S^R*Albany 14th April <1746>*

This Ins^t rec^d Y^r favour of the 9th whereby I find the Assembly upon his Exc^{lly}s recommendation have agreed that I shall Supply the troops at Oswego, w^h. I will take Care shall be well done, and in due time I intend to sett them of the latter end of this present Week, w^h. is verry expeditious, considering the little notice I have had. Please to return my hearty thanks to his Excell^y. for the kind favour done me as I shall also in a Letter to him ☿ this Same opertunity being so hurryed by sending of the provisions &ca that I have only time to assure that I am wth. all due regard D^r. S^r.

Y^r. Most Humble Serv^tW^M JOHNSONTo CAPT^N J^N CATHERWOOD

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: To Catherwood

FROM JOHN FAIRLY

A. L. S.

DEAR S^R*Oswego 6th May 1746*

Please to Send Mee Just Such an other bato As John B V Eps his but Let Y^e Smaell Goods Not be of one Shortt & Remain
Your Most Humble S^r.

JOHN FAIRLY

ADDRESSED: To M^r Will: Johnson

FROM JOHN B. VAN EPS

A. L. S.

Oswego, 6 May, 1746

DEAR SR

If your Goods Is Come please to Send a Bato of Rume & 3 P^s of Strowds & other Indian Goods as Ieusjell which y^e know verry well & one or 2 Nest of Read Truncks thill the Amount of £100 or There about if it Can be Soo please to Leat y^e bearore Samuell Morre theack down y^e 2 P^s of Linnen to Gitt thim meade up if ye have bread beackt Pray tell him So when he & My brother In Law coms whit y^e bato & Amty Caggs Pray Leat thim Nott Deale the Cann Carre 2 HH^d if [*it Can not be other wease*] thee come wie are Geatt here Seaff & well and so Dowling will Oblige your Most Humble Sarv^t

J^{NO} B V EPS

P. S. Wie hear of a great Threade.

I have payd franses Donnelon Martens 4 & 2 onces of bever @ y^e prys as he Sels thim to you for Sum wampon I had.

This In heast & Rott und^r a Great Deall of Noais of Druncken People & Indians.

ADDRESSED: To Mr Will: Johnson att his house these

FROM ANTHONY DUANE

L. S.

New York 16th May 1746

MR. WILL^M: JOHNSON SR

Yours of 30th: Ult^o. is before me & have recieved the Two Hh^{ds}. of Gammons and Four Bb^{ls} of Butter, the Former of which are so very large they will neither doe for this Markett nor to ship off wherefore desire you^d. send orders for my sending them up again, as I apprehend they may either doe for your Familys use or to send to oswegoe. With regard to the Butter shoud^d. have been able to sell it at a very Good Price if it had a been Pack^d. in Firkins, however have sold Two Bb^{ls}: and am

to have whatever I can gett for the Others. The Young Man you Mention is now with Mr. Scott & would wilingly goe to you if he Could.

I note your Intention of sending down some Flour & Mr. Van Allen next Trip I herewith send you by him Ten Bbl^s. of Pork as you order'd, but can't advise you of the Price untill I sell the rest. I am Sr.

Your Very Humb^l. Serv^t.

ANTH: DUANE

P S The Hh^{ds}. are a Mixture of Large Gammons, Shoulders and Bacon and not well dry^d. whereas for this Markett they ought to be all Sizeable Gammons and well Smoak^d. I am as ut Supra.

ADDRESSED: To Mr: William Johnson Merchant On Mount Johnson. & Cap^t. Vⁿ: Allen Q D C

PIETER VAN ALLEN TO ANTHONY DUANE

D. S.

New York 16th May 1746

Received of Mr. Anthony Duane Ten Bbl^s of Pork which I Promise to deliver to Mr. W^m. Johnson or his order in Albany for which have given Two Receipts both of this Tenor and Date as witness my hand

PIETER VAN ALLEN

FROM JOHN RUTHERFURD

A. L. S.

Albany 12th June 1746

SIR

I received the inclosed in a letter I had <to day> from The Governour & have ordered Serg^t William<son> to be ready to set out to morrow with the Schenectady Waggon, that you may have it as soon as possible, other three letters from New York I

send along with him & one from Doctor Shuckburgh. We have no other particulars about the Expedition but what His Excellency writes . . .¹ in general; Tha five Battalions were to . . .¹ the end of Aprile or beginning of May under the command of General St Clair² to rendezvous with Major General's Frampton³ Regiment at Louisbourg wick came out with Commodore Knowls & Joined with the Two Gibraltar Regiments & what troops can be raised in New England, are to proceed up the River St Lawrence & those raised in this & the Provinces to the Southward as far as Virginia are to be under the Command of Brig^r General Gooch⁴ to rendezvous at Albany if thought proper. Mess^{rs} Wrexall Honeym[a¹]n Harry Livingston & they say Peter Winnie & John [Re¹]nselaar, are beating up for Recruits to raise Companys. I have no doubt but you'll <incline> to be concerned in this Expedition in some shape [or] other. I shall be glad to hear some Indian news from you, or rather to see you here. Mr Lidius has received orders from Gover^r Shirly to come immediately to Boston & he sets out on Monday next, so if you have any letters to send that way you must lose no time. I am Sir Your most obed^t humble Servant

JOHN RUTHERFURD

FROM WARREN JOHNSON

A. L. S.

Boston <July ye 7th 1746>

DR. BRO:

Since my last to you of ye <28th of June, my Uncle> has got me a Company to go <upon this Ex>pidition against Canada, <and am raissing> them with all Expedition possible My <Com>pany is to be all Irish and hope I shall

¹ Manuscript torn.

² Lieutenant General James St Clair.

³ Charles Frampton, Lieutenant General in 1747.

⁴ William Gooch, governor of Virginia, 1727-49.

<raise> them all in a short time. Dr. Bro, I was <very> Sorry to hear by yr. letter of the 18th of Ju<ne> to my Uncle that you are in great dange<r of> your Enemies the French Indians. Pray God preserve and Defend you from them Barbarous Savage and Grant you Success in all your Undertakeings; My Uncle desired me to let you now that there are [4?] fine four Pounders at his Farm in New York which if you please you may have & will be of Great Service to you against your Enemies togeather with what you have. I have not received one Letter from Ireland these Six Months. I Shall write to them by the first Ship bound to England.

<Dr.> brother, I beg you will write to me to <Boston> for I shall not have the pleasure of seeing you so Soon as I Expected, & doubt if this winter, if we go so soon as is talked of; please to direct your Letters for me to the Care of Mr. Charles Apthorp in Boston. No more at present but wish you all happiness & Success imaginable and am my Dr brother yr Most Loveing and affect. Bro.

WARREN JOHNSON

P. S. I find by yr letter to my Uncle y^t you do not now of my being with him.

FROM RICHARD SHUCKBURGH

A. L. S.

July y^e 7, 1746

S^R:

I have just time to tell y<ou y^t> y^e Duke of Cumberland¹ has intirely defeated the Pretenders² forces taken y^e young Pretend^r. Prisoner, &c. &c. John a Schory Indian has kill^d. & scalp'd a Cagnawaga Indian near Still Water I had the pleasure of seeing his Scalp carried about streets. King, the New England man is arriv'd here & says Admir^l Warren is certainly arriv'd in

¹ William Augustus, Duke of Cumberland, younger son of George II.

² Charles Edward Stuart, defeated at Culloden, April 16, 1746.

Boston I took up two Letters one a Pacquet both w^{ch} I deliver'd to Robin Saunders I hope you will get them by this Conveyance I am in haste the People wont stay however am much y^{rs}.

RICH^d SHUCKBURGH

ADDRESSED: To Willm Johnson, Esq^r these.

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

L. S.

Albany 25th. July, 1746

SIR

I've just receiv'd your Letter sent me by your Servant, and I conceive the Subject Matter of your Information is calculated with a design to prevent the Indians coming down to an Interview with me, or their Joining in the War, which is an Artifice I shall endeavour to defeat. In the mean time I must desire that You'll take some Pains to remove any bad Impressions this News may have had upon the Mohawks, and I shall give directions to Coll^o. Schuyler¹ to Detach the Principal Officers of his Regiment to their Castles to Assure them of their Protection, in Case the Enemy should Attack them; You may tell them That as I expect a great Body of Men to arrive soon at Albany they shall have all manner of Assistance from me against their Enemy, and I hope no threatnings of the French will ever influence the Six Nations, in particular the Mohawks, to Recede from their Solemn Engagements with the English who in a short time will be able to convince the Enemy of their Power over them. I am Sir

Your very humble Servant

G. CLINTON²

¹ Colonel Philip Schuyler, of Albany county militia.

² George Clinton was son of Francis, sixth earl of Lincoln. Entering the navy, he was appointed captain in 1716. In 1732 he was made a commodore and governor of Newfoundland; in 1737 commodore of the Mediterranean fleet; and in 1741 governor of the colony of New York, an office which he held until 1753. While governor of New York he rose through successive ranks to be Admiral of the White. He died July 10, 1761.

I am endeavouring all I can to send you a Party of Men according to your Request.

M^R W^M JOHNSON

ADDRESSED: To M^r. W^m. Johnson at Mount Johnson.
FROM RICHARD SHUCKBURGH

A. L. S.

Albany July 28 <1746>

S^R

I lest you should not be inform'd by another hand I am to Acquaint you that an Officer & 25 men from Schohory are to be sent for y^r succour & the Settlement adjacent an Express I am inform'd went wth. Orders this Day to y^e Militia Officers of y^t Precinct for y^t Purpose. Some People here are in great Consternation for fear of being Attack'd before we can get our forces together but as this is from Indian News who speak from their fear, the People seem to sympathize wth. 'em from thence are affected: the Gov^r. you know is here the Gen^l Gooch expected this week & the News of the fleet's arrival at Louisbourg Expected every Minute. You have had no Letters from New York since those I deliver'd to Saunders I'll send you News by every Opportunity in the mean time God Prosper you. Y^{rs}.

RICH^D SHUCKBURGH

ADDRESSED: To Will^m Johnson Esq^r
at Mount Johnson Mohawks

GEORGE CLINTON TO JACOB GLEN

L. S.

<Albany 30th July 1746>

SIR

I have just receiv'd <yours by Mr. John> Colon; go on and prosper. I have <considered of what> you have Writt in relation to the two <Cagnawage> Indians, and don't doubt but they are Spys, and have bad designs, for which reason it is

not only my Opinion, but the Councils, and Gentlemen from Boston, that you should immediately (with the Assistance of Mr. Johnson) use your utmost endeavours to perswade them by all the fair means that can be used, to have them come to me here. As also Aaron the Sachem, and not Suffer them to return to Canada, and after you have Tryed all the fair means that is possible to get them down and they refuse coming, then you are to use Force, and by the help of some Militia, bring them to me; & to tell the Castles, that as the Governour of Canada never suffers any of our Indians to come into his Country, without speaking to him first, so I will make all French Indians come to me, that I hear are in any of our Castles; you may Assure them they shall not be hurt, or Ill Used <The reason> why I send so possitively for <Aarion is> because he has deceiv'd me, I hate <Treachery,> for when I saw him here he promised me not to depart the Town without taking his leave; But he Stole away either when Duskish, or very early in the Morning, purely with a Design to deceive my Brethren and friends the Mohawks, by deluding them with false Alarms, that a French Army of great force was coming against us & them.

I dont Gasgonade, as the French do, w^t I say tis true, wee have many Ships Already arrived at Cape Breton, and the whole f fleet is Expected every Day, and some Thousands of Land forces already at Louisburgh, severall Thousands in New England, and many Soldiers are arrived at Albany and some Thousands more Expected from Virginia Maryland, Pensylvania and New Jerseys Speedily, which will be a force so much Superior to any in Canada that the Indians need be under no Apprehensions. I am Sir

Your very Humble. Serv^t

G. CLINTON

I desire you will pay all Messengers & Expresses & Charge it to me, as also any Business Should have occasion to Send.¹

INDORSED: <To Major Glen>

¹ Postscript in handwriting of Governor Clinton.

FROM JAMES WILLSON

A. L. S.

[*Boston, August 11, 1746*]S^r

Your favor I Received ^{Mr} [] glad to here that you were well [] Recept of yours I was not got to boston [] Caled Rehobeth betwixt Rode Island and [] billey was Taken with the Small pox & in [] after I was taken Exceding bad with the Qu[insy?] ware Detained there above a month which was very Chargible in them parts it Cost me above fifty pounds York money there the people here are more afread here of the Small pox than they are of the Devill. Admirell Warren has Received your Letter ^{Mr} Mr Lidies on fathers account and he has had the honour of Speaking Twice To him as for the Expedition people here are in Doubt of the arivell of the fleet this year they have almost all their men Reaised and In this Town I am hartily glad to here of the Safe arivell of your goods in the antilope. I am much obliged to you for you goodness in Speaking to Cap^t Burowes about that Small Bali [] I wish you Could get it and keep it till I Come up. [] he must goe on the Expedition william Edmuston of Chirevaley owes 27/ or there abouts I should be glad that you Could get that from him I am Sorey that I Did not know of that young man in New York for I was severell Times in the house he Loged in father is in Town yet but Expects to goe in a few Days for Lewisborgh with all the Rest of the Cape briton officers. Coll. [Sto]dartt and a great many more gentlemen here would have him goe upon the Expedition and ofered to Raise him a Company and get him a Captins Comision but his Excelencey was very much against his going and mouter is beter Satisfied that he Does not goe as we shall I hope be setled now all together. If there is any Convanencey for us we shall goe this fall if not Eairly in the Spring I have the Honour to aquaint you that you have a brother in this province I never have had the Honour of Seeing of him for he

was not in Town when I Came here nor Returned yet father has seen him and says that he is a very fine young gentleman he is going on this Expedition and is Reaising a Company they Call them the Royall Irish Company Commanded by Captin Warrin Johnson []¹ I should have Come Sooner but [] the yalow favor is very brief at [] Detane me Longer than I Expected [] and the children Joyns in Sending their [] and humble Respects to you and Returns [] thousand thanks for all your favors Shooan them upon all accounts I belive flower would Doe here very well I Can bye new England Rum for Three and Six pence a galond If you should have any Commands this way I hope you will acquaint me of them and I Doe ashure you I shall Doe the utmost of my Indeavers to Serve you I hope you wont forget writing To us by all opertunities all frinds here are well Mr^s Cope Desires to be Remmembred to you please to give our Compliments to Mr^r Craig Mr^s Craig Captin Burrowes Mr^s Burows and to all Captin Butlers family in genirell and all other frinds in them parts baver sells here for Three [poun]ds Ten Shillings This money which is 17/6 York [] I See it Sold So the admirell is well I See him [] Day If you Should Send any thing the best and Surest hand is Captin Grifin who uses this trade No at present but Remain Sr your frind and Most humble Ser^t. To Command

JAMES WILLSON

FROM WARREN JOHNSON

A. L. S.

<Boston August ye 25th 1746>

<DR: BRO:>

Since my last to you I <have Recruited in London> Derry and have meet with very <good Success and> do not want above fiveteen men to <Compleat my> Company haveing got

¹ Several lines missing.

now upwards of <Eighty men;> My Uncle Warren Intends for Louisbourg <this> week and from thence I beleive to England. I beleive you have heard e'r'e now of my Cozen Terrell's great Success haveing Lately taken Several Vessells but one in Perticular which gains him Vast honour D^r bro. I have wrote Several Letters to you since my arrival here but have not Receiv'd an Answer I beg you'l write to me to Boston, and Derect to the Care of M^r Charles Apthorp, I have wrote Letters to our Friends in Ireland by A Vessell bound to London, the Fleet is not arrived at Louisbourg yet, and it is the opinion of every one that the Expedition will not go on this fall. I have now more at Present, but wish you all happiness and Success So Conclude D^r Brother

Y^r Most Loveing and Affec^t Bro.

WARREN JOHNSON

in Haste

ADDRESSED: To M^r William Johnson in Albany
to the Care of M^r Oliver DeLancy in New York
& to Hon. Holland, Esq^r. at Albany

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

D. S.

[Albany the 27th Aug^t 1746]

By His Excellency The Honourable George
Clinton Captain General and Governour in Chief
in & over the Province of New York &ca. &ca.

Whereas Several Tribes of the Six Nations of Indians have engaged to go to war agst the French their Indians & Settlements in Canada and as the said Tribes will want to be Supplied Occasionally in Arms Ammunition, Clothing & Provisions, &ca. when they go to War, as aforesaid

You are therefore hereby Impowred to Furnish the said Tribes, or so many of them as will go against the Enemy upon your Orders with y^e above Necessarys & for what ever you Issue by

Virtue of this Power, Satisfaction shall be made you, upon Your Rendring a fair and just Acco't thereof & for so doing this Shall be Your Sufficient Warrant Given under my Hand at Albany the 27th Aug^t

1746

G. CLINTON.

To WILLIAM JOHNSON Esq^r

commissary of the Stores & Provisions for the Indians

By His Excellency's Command

Jno. Catherwood Sec^y

INDORSED: To W^m. Johnson Esq^r. Impowering him to Arm & Cloath such partys of Ind^s as he may send out against the Enemy August 1746

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

D. S.

Albany 28 August 1746

Instructions to William Johnson, Esq^r. as Colonel of the Forces to be raised out of the Six Nations of Indians on His Majesty's Service against the French & their Indians and as Commissary of the Stores & provis^{ns} to be provided on that occasion.

1st You are hereby impowred to inlist under Your Command all such Christians & Indians as shall Voluntarily offer themselves for the above mentioned Service, and such Christians as enter into said Service, shall be allowed and paid after the rate of two Shillings New York Currency p Day, til they are discharged therefrom.

2^{dly} You are to endeavour to send out as many Party's of the said Indians as you possibly can against the French & their Indians in Canada to harrass and Alarm their Quarters in all Parts and to take Prisoners for Intelligence as soon as may be, likewise Scalps, and for every such Prisoner or Scalp so taken of the Enemy, the Person producing the same shall Receive the

Reward allowed by an Act of the General Assembly of this Province.¹

3^{dly} You will receive with these Instructions, a Number of Blank Commissions, in order to appoint such Persons, as You shall think proper to Intrust with any Command over the several party's of Indians, you shall from time to time send out as aforesaid.

4^{thly} In Case you find it Necessary upon any Misbehaviour, or disobedience of the said Officers, to Your Command, to remove him or them for so disobeying, You are hereby, for the good of the Service, Impower'd to Suspend such Officer or Officers & commit him or them to the care of the Commanding Officer of Fort Hunter or Schenectady till my Pleasure is known for which purpose you shall receive along with these Instructions my Orders to the said Commanding Officers to receive & secure such Persons as you shall commit accordingly.

5^{thly} Whereas there may be occasion to send Messages to the distant Castles of the Six Nations or their Allies, or to go your self occasionally among them, and what ever Charges or Expence You may be at, for such Services, shall be Allowed You.

6^{thly} Whereas I am of Opinion that your residence among the Mohawks, will rather promote his Majestys Service, than if you was to go out with any Command Your self, You are therefore hereby required to reside near the Indian Castles in order to send out the Several Partys as aforesaid, and receive them, at their Return, And to give me Intelligence from time to time of what they have done & of what further Encouragement You shall think necessary for the Service.

G. CLINTON

INDORSED: Instructions To Col. Johnson

¹ An act approved February 27, 1745 authorized the giving of rewards for scalps and prisoners, *Journal of the Legislative Council of New York*, p. 917.

GEORGE CLINTON TO THE COMMANDING OFFICER OF FORT
AT SCHENECTADY OR FORT HUNTER

D. S.¹

[*Albany*] 28th Aug. 1746

By His Excellency The Honorable George Clinton
Captain General and Governour in Chief in and over
the Provence of New York etc. etc.

Whereas I have appointed William Johnson Esqr. Colonel of the Forces to be Raised out of the Six Nations of Indians on his Majesty's Service.

You are therefore hereby required and Commanded to receive and Secure into the Fort under Your Command any Person or Persons the said Wm. Johnson shall committ to Your charge and care til You have my Order to Release or Discharge him or them as Aforesaid, and for so doing this shall be Your War-rant Given under my hand this 28th Aug. 1746.

GEO. CLINTON

To the Commanding Officer
of the Forts of Schenectady &
Fort Hunter or either of them.

FROM WARREN JOHNSON

A. L. S.

[*Boston, September 1, 1746*]

[DEAR BROTHER

Receiv'd y[	]
which gave [	]
ware in good hea[	]
I have not heard fr[	]
these nine Months past [	]
Letters to them, one Last [we]ek [	]
for England, as for Jam ^s Rogers I proposed [	]

¹Original of this order is in possession of Alexander Hill, Cincinnati, Ohio.

for Sergency in my Compiny and Shall do him all the Service in my Power, Dr bro. Jam^s Rogers Likewise tells me that you had Engaged forty or fifty men for my Company, but hearing Coll^o Wendall say My Company was he beleived Compleat you turned them over to another Cap^{tn} at Present I do not want above twenty men to Compleat it, but Should be Extreamly Oblidged to you if you Could get me ten or twelve able bodied Men and Send them down to Boston to me it Likewise gives me Vast Pleasure to hear that you have been the principale Person in bringing the Six Nations of Indians to Our Enterest. My Uncle has wrote by this post to you; by a Vessell from Anapolis Royal we hear that the French to the Number of 3000 Men have Landed there, and I beleive we Shall be Sent there very soon I have now news worthy Relateing you I beg you will write to me by the next oportunity, I conclude Dr Bro

Your Most Loveing and Affect^d. Bro

WARREN JOHNSON

in heaste

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

A. L. S.

<Albany, 16th Sepr. 1746.>

SIR

I have Yours of <Yesterday, with the Message You> mention from the Governour of Canada, <whereby I find he> dreads the Six Nations acting ag^t him: <I am glad he is> too late with his Message by the Answer they <have given,> and I hope they will faithfully abide by it, otherwise <they> will betray themselves into the highest misfortunes.

It is true I desired the Six Nations to Join and Share with us in conquering the Enemy, and as this is one Method of doing it, I cannot see why they should make any Objection, since by their Answer, they declared that some of their Fighters from each Nation, shou'd be left behind to follow my Orders: Therefore I expect they will strictly fullfill their Promises to me, as I intend in every Article to perform mine to them.

Since You left me, there arriv'd some Oghquago Indians from Susquehana River with whom I have had a Treaty upon the foregoing Subject; but as they came with few Numbers they cou'd not leave above fourteen Fighters behind, who I sent out Yesterday properly equipp'd with Sixty white Men under the command of Cap^t Staats ag^t the Enemy, and I hope they will act a part equal to their Promises, having publicly declared they never will lay down their Hatchet until the <French and their Indians are entirely conquered. The rest are returned Home, in order to collect a greater Number of their Warriours to Join us,> in about ten days <wch looks as if they were> determined to be hearty in <our Cause, and it will> not be amiss to hint it to those that <are now> with You, as they took my Speech in no other light than to go immediately a fighting.

Five Hundred Troops from the Jerseys & Four hundred from Philadelphia are arriv'd here, besides several more Companys from New York w^{ch} amount to above two thousand Men, also more expected; and as I hear that the Fleet was seen off the Banks of Newfoundland, I conclude they are before now at Louisbourg, having sent, some time since, an Express to Boston not yet returned, and I conclude he is detained on that account, being informed that Waddele is arriv'd at New York in seven weeks from Portsmouth, who sett out with the Fleet the first day, but was put back by contrary winds, he says the next day it was fair & guess'd they then sail'd.

I thought it prudent to give the Captain of the Party now gone out both a word & Signal which is Oswego for y^e word & a Red piece of Gimp on the Head for the signal in Case they should meet with any Party from You, therefore I wou'd have You give it, but to such as you can trust upon Command to prevent the Enemy's getting it, or any Mischief happening upon meeting one another.

<I am heartily sorry at the great Sickness & frequent Deaths among the Indians, wch are inevitable> Obstructions in executing Your <Designs, tho' it is plain by> what You write,

You have done <Your best, and> under these Circumstances I approve <of the party> going out, and hope they won't fail <me now, as it> has been long expected, but that both sides <will> perform something worthy the Cause they are concern'd in. I wou'd have Aaron Stevens come down to settle his accounts and other matters here, and not go out this Trip. I gave Colonel Schuyler¹ an Order the 4th. Inst to send a Relief to Oswego, but how far he has comply'd with it I cannot say: Provisions must go up by this Relief for the Winter, w^{ch} I hope you are furnished with. The moment I have any further Intelligence concerning the Fleet I shall inform You of it, and am Sir

Your very humble serv^t

G. CLINTON

P. S. Whatever Partys go from Your parts are to have the like word & signal I have given to the Cap^t of the Oghquago Indians

W^m JOHNSON Esq^r

FROM JOHN H. LYDIUS

A. L. S.

Albany September 17 <1746>

HONOUR S^r

I was Glad to Hear from your welfare am very much obliged to you in Hoping for my beter State of Halt as you Left me Tenks be to God I am at present in a Parfect Helt as to News Stirring is in Generall Mellencoly the Post from boston is not arived Here but we have an Acc^t of his ariving ther, one Smit Left boston after he got there Hoe Brings an Account of seven hundered french and Indians Cuting of the fort at Hosik and that Saterday was weak 5 Men were Killed & 1 Taken Prisoner from Dearfield! that Madam Shirley Died Last Lordsday was 2 weeks and was to be Buried on Tuesday. But says that they Expect to Goo Jet this fall to Crounpont Ther Trens-

¹ Colonel Philip Schuyler.

ports being ¹ lest, Cap^t Waddle is arrived but the Goods Not
Jet Come to Albany

P. S.

the Five Hundred Men from the Jer ¹ are arived and Jester-
day 300 from ¹ Arived Hear; Smit from boston ¹ an Account
that Anapolis wass bes ¹ By the French and Indians; You Left
me No Order to sell any of Your Bever or Skins, But Judging
them for Sale I Have Sold for £190, 6 for Which I have the
Cass at Your Disposell Acording to ye Account here Anexed,
And have wid a Proviso of Your Aprobation promised to kee
Untill the 20 of October 300 fl of bever And then he will be
here with Gold and Dollers to pay for it, I Would advise You
if ther is any bever to be boug ¹ Under 10/ Not to Let it
past ¹ of opinion it will within a Let ¹ fetch 10/6

P. S.

Inclosed is a Memorandum of Sander Conserving the 10 paks
of Bever sent by ther ¹ op Peter has not been Down himself ¹
I heard one Samuel Brat has six paks of Bever Left if You By
them ther will be But fuw but what will be in your hands.

Sergent Burns Gives his Servis to you. he is Jesterday Arived
from New York Your Neger is Quit Recoverd and is well
My wif Joyns in service to your self and Conclud with Due
Respect

Your Hum: Servent to Comand

JOHN H. LYDIUS

FROM WARREN JOHNSON

A. L. S.

<Boston, October 3rd 1746>

D^R BROTHER

Meeting with this <opportunity I would not omit> writeing
to you, to inform <you that my Uncle Warren,> Aunt &

¹ Manuscript torn.

Cozens are very well <and I beleive my Uncle> Deseighns for Louisbourg next <week, as we have an> Account here that the English <Fleet under the> Command of Vice Admiral Lestock <Sailed from> Spithead last August for Louisbourg; <it's like>wise reported that Adml. Lestock has a Sufficient Force under his Command to give Battle to the French Fleet who as it's imagianed are now in Possession of Anopilis Royal, my Aunt Warren goes to Newyork next week to Spend the winter there, I am glad I have it in my power to Acquaint you that my Recruteing Business is Over haveing now an Hundred Men, I beg Dr Bro. you will write to me as often as Oportunity permits as there's nothing can give me more Satisfaction than to hear often from you, if you have heard from our Friends in Ireland lately I beg you will let me know as I have not heard from them these Eleven Months which gives me vast Concern, I hope to have the Happiness of seeing you at New york in a short time in case we do not go upon any Expidition this Winter, & it's Generaley thought we shall not, James Rogers is very well & I have given him a Sergants Post. Now More at Present but wish you all happiness & Success So Conclude Dr Brother

Your most loving & affect Bro —

WARREN JOHNSON

P: S: Derect your letters for me to the Care of Mr Charles Apthorp, Merc^t in Boston

To M^R WILLIAM JOHNSON

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

*D. S.*¹

By his Excellency the Honourable George Clinton
Captain General and Governour in Chief of the prov-
ince of New York &c^a. &c^a. &c^a.

Whereas I am informed that a meeting of some of the far Nations is to be held this Winter at the Onondage Castle in

¹ In Ayer Collection, Newberry Library, Chicago, Ill.

Order to Concert measures touching their joining the Five Nations of Indians in the War against Canada And as I conceive that your Attending that Meeting will Contribute much to his Majesty's Service.

You are hereby required and Commanded to meet the said Nations accordingly when you hear the Same is to be held and to take such persons along with you as you shall Judge to have any Influence to forward the Success of that Meeting for His Majesty's Service and the Welfare and Security of this province. And for So doing this shall be your Warrant.

Given under my hand this Second day of December 1746.

G. CLINTON

To COLONEL WILLIAM JOHNSON

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

A. L. S.

[*New York, December 10, 1746*]

[I desire you [of black Stallions to [Their height is full fifteen [Star in their foreheads without [two white feet behind & one bef [be glad to have them as soon as you can conveniently and am¹ Y^s

This comes by y^r Brother & hope will find you well, I have nothing of Newes but what he will tell you I have recommended you to His Maj^{ty}. Favour Thro y^e Duke of Newcastle, I must desire you will keep up y^e Indians to their Promiss of keeping Outscouts to watch y^e Motion of y^e French²

¹ Down to this point the letter is not in Clinton's writing.

² In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:314, in a letter from George Clinton to the Duke of Newcastle, is mention of the appointment of Johnson as colonel of the warriors of the Six Nations.

The Leu[tenant] g[overn]or has printed a most scandilous affair of Hors[mande]ns proceedings, but it shall go with the rest of His proceedings home to show how heartey he is for y^e Cause, to undoe all I do, I hope you got up safe & quieted y^e Indians & am with great truth & Sincerity

Dr Sir

Your friend & servant

G CLINTON

ADDRESSED: To Coll^o. Johnson

at Albany

FROM WARREN JOHNSON

A. L. S.

Albany December 20th. 1746

[¹]
to have the pleasure of seeing you here & go with y[] to your house, the man by whom I send this is [] going so I have only time to Conclude your Most

Loveing and Affect^d. Brother

in great heaste

WARREN JOHNSON

COL^o. JOHNSON

FROM JOHN CATHERWOOD

A. L. S.

New York 22 Dec^r. 1746

DR SIR

I've Just recd Your Favour and as the Indians don't care to part with the Girle, his Ex^y. don't desire it, therefore You may do Your pleasure with them. I embark to morrow for England, & if I gett safe, You may depend upon my Endeavours for Y^r.

¹ Several lines missing at top, evidently being cut off after the fire.

Interest & service, write to me by next Vessell under Cover to the Adm^l. & if You mention me to him he may perhaps (int[er]nos) promote my Int^{ts}. for a C^o. I hope to see you in the Spring, 'til then I kiss Your hand and am with my Complim^{ts} to Y^r. Bro^r.

D^r Col^o.

Your ever Obedient

& Affectionate serv^t

JN^o. CATHERWOOD

COL^o. JOHNSON

FROM THOMAS BUTLER

A. L. S.

[1746]

SIR

When You are paying One Ey'd William I Shou'd be obliged to you if you'd tell him to leve one Spanish Dollar with you for me which I paid for him to Cap^t. Pettre for a Gallon of Rum My father desires his hum^{le}: Servis to you who is now brave and herty.

I am Sir Your Humbl^e: Serv^t.

THO^s: BUTLER

ADDRESSED: To Collⁿ. W^m. Johnson

FROM THOMAS BUTLER

A. L. S.

<1746>

SIR

That day I came from home got to Mr Fetterleys bo't two Kattle of Van Alstine yesterday. Yesterday I was al over Stone Robie and bought all the Kattle that was good to be found. last night left at Wormwood's where I bought three. I have now in all bought thirty Seven. I think very good oxen Excepting two cows which are about six years old and good. I am now going over the River to one Countreymans where I hear is two

large oxen. The remainder I proposed to buy at the Flatts. Pettre has sent me word that there is a great many. I sent Quack yesterday with a letter to Pettre: who brings you his answer — I thought it best to send up Quack that you shou'd not stay the Comm^d. for if I had kept him with me, it would have been tuesday before we cou'd get down. I shall send you from the great flatts an Acc^t of all the Kattle bought. I have ordered the people to drive up the Kattle next fryday to Herkemans and think to sett them of y^e. Next day for Oswego. I am, Sr.

y^r. very Hum^{le}. Serv^{tt}.

THO^s: BUTLER

Sunday two oclock
att Mr. Fealings

ON VERSO: As there is not bags Enough don't know what you
will do unless you send Quack up with some.

ADDRESSED: To Coll. Johnson

FROM ARENT STEVENS

A. L. S.

COLL: JOHNSON

[1746]

SIR

as you wrote me there was So many Rum Cags Lost I had it
Cryed about and Can hear of no more yet but what I gave the
oghquagas & Shohariese I gave them Eight an what is become
of the Rest I can not know Oterewane has Lost his pack at
Albert von Slick's with a fine pipe and a blanket of Strouds and
three pair of Stockens and a par of french stockens. Hee is
in hope Since it was stold that the Coll: will make it good to him
De grotejonge is here yet in Schonectady an I do not know how
to order for him in provisons and a Docter an I would wish you
would Let me know what to doe with him no more at present
but Remane

your most humble Servant

ARENT STEVENS

EXPENSE ACCOUNT OF ALBERT VAN SLYCK

Goods Disbursed & Charges Done pr: Albert Van Slyck In
Order to Get the Cajoge Indians a Fiting Against the French
vizt:

1746	To 7200 Black Wampin @ 5 pr Ct	£18	0	0
	1550 Do White @ 3/ pr Ct	2	6	6
at Oswego	To Condolence of the Death of old Coghsenejont viz			
	1 Blanket 14/ & 1 pair of Stockins 6/	1	0	0
	1 Shirt 9 & 7 Gallons Rom @ 3/6 pr Gall 24/6	1	13	6
	1 pair of Stockins 6/ & 4 Ells of Imbrose Sarge @ 3/ pr Ell	0	18	0
at Cajoge	1 Cettel Wt 5 ll @ 3/ pr ll 15/ & 5 Knives 5/	1	0	0
	1/2 ll Virmiljon 10/ & 2 Small Shirts 6/	0	16	0
	1 Blanket 14/ & 1 pair Stockins 6/	1	0	0
	1 Indian Shirt 9/	0	9	0
at Nondage	500 Black Wampin @ 5/ pr Ct	1	5	0
	1 fat hogg @ 30/	1	10	0
Great flatch	3 Loafs of Bread 2/3 To hire of a Bato from the flatch	0	12	3
	1 fat Hogg @ 30/ & 1 fat Sheep 12/	2	2	0
at Schonectady	for Bread 5/ & two freights to Albany 18/	1	3	0
	1 Silver Arms band 8/ & 1 Chest Shirt 12/	1	0	0
	4 pair of Indian Shoes @ 3/ pr pair 12/	0	12	0
	To The Gun Smith 3/ To Cash on their Journey 7/	0	10	0
	To hire of a Waggon @ 6 shil	0	6	0
Oswego	To my Bato had to Cannida by the Mohaks 30	1	10	0
	Errors Excepted Prime Cost	£37	13	3

MARAGRIETA VEEDER'S ACCOUNT

1746	Mr Cornell Janson.	Dr:
aen ¹	31 Vaeties ² @ 1/6 pr Vaetie	£ 2 . 6 . 6
Ditto aen	1 Barll 3 ()	3 . 0
Ditto aen	Ancker	2 . 6
aen	30 Vaam ³ toune ⁴ @ 6 p pr Vaam	15 . 0
		£ 3 . & . 0

Schonegtady January 20ath 1746/7

Maragrieta Veeder

<Rec^d the above in full pr me Margaret> M Veeder

INDORSED: Cornell Jansons Reckoning.

TO JOHN HENRY LYDIUS

*Contemporary Copy*⁵*Mount Johnson Jan^y: 26th. 1746/7*

SIR,

By yours receiv'd last Night ¶ Brant I find you intend shortly for Boston. And as I cannot have the Pleasure of seeing you before you set off, I wish you a prosperous Journey and safe Return. Two days ago I receiv'd a Letter from Mr. Clinton, telling me the forwardness of the New England Troops, & desiring I would prepare as many Indian Warriours as possible to assist our Forces in the Reduction of Crown Point, which I heartily wish to see; and should not make the least doubt of it were our People but so active as our Neighbours the New Englanders, who daily set us good Examples had we the Grace to follow it. I have now sent several of my Officers among the upper Nations to prepare them, but have fixed on no certain time,

¹ Dutch, meaning "to" in an account.² *Vaatjes*, Dutch, meaning kegs.³ *Vaam*, Dutch, meaning fathom.⁴ *Touwen*, Dutch, meaning ropes or rope.⁵ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5.901, London, England.

fearing a Disappointm^t. I have had the two next Castles assembled Yesterday, and do assure you that nothing could give me more Pleasure than to see their Willingness they shew'd of joining us, whenever required, the sooner they say the better, for they are almost in Dispair, or out of Patience so long waiting. I make not the least doubt of bringing as many in the Field as will be sufficient for that Enterprize; I only wish our Forces were all so ready & willing. I am much hurried, so have only time to assure you of my best Wishes for you M^{rs}. Lydius &c^a. And am

Sir,

Your most Humble Servant
W^m. JOHNSON

To M^r. JOHN HENRY LYDIUS

Copy examined ☿ J. Willard Sec^y.

INDORSED: Extract from M^r.

Johnson's Letter to M^r. Lydius.¹

In Gov^r. Shirley's of Feb^y 21 1746/7²

FROM WARREN JOHNSON

A. L. S.

New York January 28, [1747]

D^r. BRO.

I arriv'd here last Thursday after a very [] Journey. Yesterday I receiv'd a letter from S^r. [William] Pepperrell wherein he desires me to be at Louisbourg the latter end of April. tomorrow I purpose to set out for Philadelphia, & return in about four or five weeks. I have wrote to our friends in Ireland by a Ship bound to Cork. the Governour has been so kind as to assure me he wou'd forward this to you, by an express he sends you upon his Majesty's Service. my Aunt Warren &

¹ In Shirley's hand.

² Beyond the fact of inclosing it, this of Shirley to the Duke of Newcastle does not refer to the above extract.

friends here desire their Compliments to you. I imagine you may readily beleive the time very burthursome to me since had the malancholy parting with you, but whats now the greatest comfort that we are in one Country, & with the Assistance of the Almighty we Shall have the happiness of meeting again. I am now prepairing things for my mornings Journey, so have only time to return you my most hearty thanks for all your favours, & wish you a Series of health & happiness being with the greatest Sincerity Dr. brother

Your most loving & Affec. Brother

WARREN JOHNSON

My best Respects to Mr. & Mrs. Lidas

& all other friends

COL^o. JOHNSON

LETTER ON EXPEDITION

Extract¹

[1747²]

When Mr Lydius arrived here from Albany with an account that the Troops of the Southern Colonies, consisting of 29 Companies, in which he computed there might now be about 2400 effective men, were in good health & Spirits, & shew'd me a Letter from Mr Johnson dated at Mount Johnson 26 January last, wherein he informd Mr Lydius, that 2 days before he rec'd a Letter from your Ex: telling him the forwardness of the New England Troops, & desiring he would prepare as many Indian Warriours as possible to assist the Forces of the Colonies in the reduction of Crown point, which he heartily wished to see, & should not make the least doubt of it, were all the Colonies active in it That he had then sent several of his Officers among the upper Nations to prepare them but had fix'd on no certain time fearing a dissapointm^t. That he had the Day before assembled

¹ From Shirley to Clinton, inclosed in Clinton to Johnson, Mar. 12, 1747.

² Conjectural date supplied.

the two next Castles, & did assure Mr Lydius that nothing could give him more pleasure than to see the willingness they shewd to join us, whenever required, the sooner they said the better, for they were allmost in Despair or out of patience at waiting so long. That he made no doubt of bringing as many into y^e field as would be sufficient for that enterprize & he only wished our Forces (meaning those of y^e Southern Colonies) were all as ready & willing

FROM JOHN LINDESAY

A. L. S.

Sd^y 6th March 1746/7

SIR

Inclosed I send you a Letter from his Ex^{ly} which I hope confirms the News that A^{dl} Warren comes over early in y^e Spring & Com^{ds} the fleet. I send this by Express to Cap^{ts} Sheaver & Broadhead to send an exact acc^t of their Deserters if you have any news that are not a Secret shall be glad to hear them I wish you Success in all your undertakings and am

Sir

your most obedient

Ser^t

JOHN LINDESAY

ADDRESSED: To Coll W^m Johnson
at Mount Johnson

PETER CORNU'S ACCOUNT

1746

april 10 begon te werk tot het 17 van juny en
heb gewerk 50 dage en 1. schoft at 5
en 6pe par dag maekt te sam . . . £ 13:16: 4 1/2
asuwerus marselis heef gewer en alle
41 en een halft at 4 en 6 penis par
dag £ 9: 6: 7

pieter Cornu syn Rekening	23: 2:11 1/2
My Acc ^t . is ¹	10:14: 6

£ 12: 8: 5 1/2

March the 11th. 1746/7

then Rec^d. of W^m. Johnson the Contents
of the above in full as witness my
Hand¹

pieter Cornu

£ 23: 2:11 1/2

Translation

1746

April 10 began to work and until the 17th of

June worked 50 and 1/4 days at 5s.

6d. per day, makes together . . . £ 13:16: 4 1/2

Asuwerus Marselis worked in all 41

and one half days at 4s. 6d. per day £ 9: 6: 7

Pieter Cornu's account

23: 2:11 1/2

My account is

10:14: 6

£ 12: 8: 5 1/2

March the 11th. 1746/7

then Rec^d. of W^m. Johnson the Contents
of the above in full as witness my
Hand

pieter Cornu

£ 23: 2:11 1/2

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

A. L. S.

[March 12[?], 1747]

SIR

I am glad to hear by <yours of ye 25th Febr^y from Albany>
of the Disposition ye Indians are in to <go out amongst the

¹ In Johnson's handwriting.

French > in Canada, You are therefore to use your utmost endeavours <to find> out as many Indians & Christians as you can without <delay to annoy> & harrass the Enemy in their own Settlements as one of the most effectually means to prevent their doing mischief among <ours,> but at ye Same time I think it Necessary y^t. a party of Indians be sent to y^e Garrison of Sarahtoga to Serve as out Scouts there, I cannot direct the Numbers for each Service as I know not what Number can be procured & therefore must leave y^t to your Discretion & Judgment, You may be assured, & you may assure all those who go upon y^t Service that they Shall have all encouragement & reward that can be reasonably expected & whatever expense you shall be at on this occasion shall be punctually paid you, Orders shall be Sent to y^e Commanding officer at Sarahtoga to use the Indians who shall come there to assist them with the greatest kindness.

As, to y^e low & vile practices of Some people in buying the Arms Cloathing &c given y^e Indians you are to use all the means in your power to detect them, for as these Indians are in ye Kings pay & Service tho' in a different way from Christians, they ought I think in a fair construction of the Law to be considered as the Kings Soldiers & y^e Laws against buying Arms & Cloathing &c from Soldiers must Extend against the buying them from Indians as well as Christian & Whites No Indians Guns are to be purchased here & therefore you must procure what shall be necessary at Albany.

I am very Sensible of what Service it will be to have Jancour¹ from among the Indians if he can by any means be brought over to leave y^e French & Settle <with us. I think it may be most usefull to gain him in yt manner as I have by> a former letter <empowered you to make promises for ye pu>rpose, but if y^t cannot be done <you are to en>deavour by all means to have removed from among the Indians, & if possible brought a Prisoner hither & you shall be paid whatever Expences shall be necessary for this Service. It is left to your Judgment from the Intelligence you shall receive to take what Method you shall think most likely

¹ Chabert Joncaire.

to Succeed either by promises to bring him over, or to remove him by Force. Perhaps the hints from Jeancour of leaving y^e French may be only to prepare Something wherein he may value himself among his Countrymen.

Be very carefull & Watchfull over any Strange Indians that may come among ours.

No Indian Blankits & Strouds to be had The Money you have drawn for shall be paid & you may depend on my perticular regard always for you tho' they do March,

I write up now to Coll^l Marshall about y^e releaf of our Troops at Oswego & to give you timely notice of it.

I have inclosed you y^e votes of y^e Boston Assembly how they send out their people which I think is a good Meathod

You will see by y^e inclosed paragraph of Govern^r. Shirly's letter how Lydius has magnified our Troops, when at y^e Same time I had y^e most dismal accounts from Albany of the week condition our Troops was in besides their wants of Cloathing. but he actually writes me now in Case y^e Connecticut people dont Joyn he shoud have no thoughts that when I found <they woudnt of Course I gave all over.>

This comes to M^r Holland by <an Express who I order> to Stay at Albany for a return of an answer to this which I desire as soon as possible & <pray let me> know how poor old Henrick does who I am Sorry to hear is So bad. I am Sir

Your very humble ser^t

G CLINTON

I hope you will get me a pair of good Horses for I am quite at a loss & if you dont must walk a foot.

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

A. L. S.

SIR

It will be proper to give these Indians y^t goes out the Word & Signal Affraid they should fall in with any of our people, & if they pass close to Sarahtoga they must be cautious because

the officer their does not know y^e word, but should be glad if he did.

If these people could take a Prisiner it would be of great service, but it will be best for them before they either attemp y^e taking of a Prisiner or Scalp to vew their works & See what Numbers they may have & if they are making any new fortifications without,

It will not be proper to give y^e word to any more then to y^e head Indian unless there should be occasion I am

Sir

Your obed^t humble Ser^t.

G CLINTON

TO GEORGE CLINTON

A. Df. S.

March 18th. 1746/7

<May it please Y^r Excellcy

this Ins^t am Honoured wth Y^{rs} by the> Express, Wth whom I send <this and in answer to w^h. Y^r> Excellcy writes abt sending <a Party as Outscouts to Saragh>toga, can only Say that I <find already it not att all> agreeable to the Indians, being <so inclined> & ready to go against Canada <where they Say thy can> do more Execution. Moreover thy <never like to keep> in a Garrison among So Many Christians. Yesterday a party of 32 Christians and Indians returned from Saraghtoga <whom I> sent there in hopes to have met and intercepted some of the Enemy <scouts> but met none, there's None will at all times more readily comply & obey Y^r Excellcy's Orders than I shall. at this time I woud beg leave <to Assure> Y^r. Excellcy. that the Consequence of it may be of Disservice at present by keeping them from fighting being now inclineing that way more & more. Wherefore, I hope Y^r. Excellcy. will pardon this in me, thinking it my Duty to tell you my Sentiments therein. I have this Week Sent out a parcel of Conajoharees

mixt with a few of the five Nations against the french & their Settlements, and am Every day busy wth fitting out More. I am going to send up Captⁿ. Stephens with 2 of the Liu^{ts} wth a small party of Men, & a few Cheifs of the 2 Castles wth them, to bring down Some of the five Nations to go a Scalping. I am of opinion We shall make the french Smart this Spring by taking Sculping, & burning them, & their Settlements, but I shall be ruined for want of Blankets, linnen, paint, Guns, Cutlashes &c^a. for I am almost out of all those & Cannot get them in Albany I believe Y^r Excellcy. has seen how difficult it was last fall for You to get those things but how much more so for me being so envyed by them, Wherefore if I cannot have them from York by the first Opertunity I do not know what I shall do. So hope Y^r Excellcy. will endeavour to have them procured & Sent up, as also the pay of those belonging to me ab^t. £430 Who were so uneasy going out now that I payed the most of them to encourage them. As for the relief for Oswego I shall be ready any time when the Lake is open to transport them. Old Hendrick is in a pritty fair Way of recovering again, w^h. will be of great Service to our Cause. I hope that Y^r. Excellcy. will <Order it so, that my people may be Supplied as the rest wth Every thing a March w^h is requisite. I will do all in my power to get y^u a pair of horses, but dont think I can get any, will Just match them, you described before. I must beg leave to remind Y^r Excellcy, once more of those things I wrote for, haveing So great a necessity for them. I shall use my utmost to get as many Indians & Christians as possible and as soon as may be to go again y^e Enemy. I am wth the greatest respect Y^r Excellcys. Much obliged Humble Serv^t.

W. J:

To GOVERNOR CLINTON,

DR SR

This Inst I was > favoured wth <Yours and> am much oblidded to you for <your> good Wishes, w^{ch} I sincerely return. As to the party w^h. you intend to Send to Oswegoe I

shall be ready to transport 'em a little after the Lake opens wh
I Judge to be abt a fourtnight but be that as it will I shall always
let you know beforehand time Enough. We kept St Patrick
yesterday & this Day & drank y^r Health & all freinds in Albany
wth so many other Healths, that I Can Scarce write, & I am
wth great regard Dr. Sr. Y^r. Most obedient Humble Serv^t.

W^m. JOHNSON

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: To Gov^r. Clinton

TO JOHN STODDARD¹

A. Df. S.

Mount Johnson March 24th <1746/7>

S^R.

Since the receipt of y^{rs}. I rec^d. <a Letter> from Govern^r
Clinton incloseing the Votes <of the> House of Representa-
tives of Boston 4th. Febr^y 1746/7 allowing a Bounty to Such of
Our friend<ly> Indians as may kill, or Captivate any of Our
Enemy, wh. is a verry good thing, and certainly will be of great
Service if rightly applyed, (that is to Say) in such a manner as
may be most Serviceable, and Agreeable to them all, wh in my
opinion, In as much as Our government allowes a Sufficient
Bounty for Such already and the Indians being therwith Content
and as now I have prepared Severall partys to go Imediately
again<st> the Enemy who Expect no More than w^t I paid
them Last Fall, Would be this, to lay out that Money for
Clothing & Subsisting Some of the Warriours, Sachems &
familys who must of Consequence want Severall necessarrys
While their young Men are at War. Altho Our Governour has
given me a full power to do all this, yet Im Sensible from w^t
Experience I've had already, it will be verry hard to do and vastly
Expensive as they are & will be more Numerous and poor having
kept them from Hunting this long time, to be ready at a Call.

¹ Colonel John Stoddard, of Northampton, Mass. See Francis Park-
man, *A Half Century of Conflict*, 2:219-20.

I've already Cloathed & fitted out Severall Partys Who are going Imediately against the Enemy and determined to destroy all thy can, as well Indians as French and as I've begun shall Continue to do <all that is in my> power to go thorough wth this affair w^h. tho <it has been, & is> very difficult & troublesome to me in particular, <yet I> hope it will be of the greatest Service to the Com<mon Cause.> I am S^r with much Esteem

Y^r verry Humble Serv^t.

W^m JOHNSON

COLL^o Jⁿ STODDARD

P. S. Mr. Lyddius has been at my House this Week who talked wth me ab^t this Affair I told him w^t I thought of it w^h I suppose he will acquaint you off.

If you have any news from Home as We daily Expect now, Should be much obliged to you for it.

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

A. L. S.

<New York, 25th March, 1747

SIR>

I have received yours <of the 18th March & am> to acquaint you I have done <every thing in my> power to purchase Indian Guns & Cutlasses, <but there> is none to be had for any Money, neither <can I> get any Welsh Cottens or black Strouds, but have sent you up by M^r Levingston's Sloop & which I bought of him Ten pie[ce]s of Indian Blankitts & <Ten> pie[ce]s of Strouds which I directed to M^r Holland for <him> to deliver out to you or Order; The Ten pie[ce]s of Blankitts & four pie[ce]s of Strouds, I have now by Cap^t Dowe Sent you up in a Box directed to M^r Saunders 18 pie[ce]s of 3/4 Garlick y^e best I cou'd get in Town & four pie[ce]s of fine Double D^o. & 30 fl of Vermillion, which is all I cou'd get, but shall still use my Endeavours to look out to purchase up what I can, & also will Employ Holland to look out at Albany & must

buy my Guns again y^e Second time y^t I have given & they have sold for them.

We have just now a report that 300 Indians is come down to your House to offer their Service to go out a fighting. I hope to God it's true because it makes some people put on dismal Faices.

We have another report y^t M^r Lydius has carried out 45 Mohowk Indians to y^e Eastwerd, I should be glad to give all y^e Assistance in every Shape I could, for the General good of the Service, but then I expect to be <acquainted with every thing that passes, or I may be greatly disapointed> as to any orders I may <want to give, and I am> very certain M^r Lydius cannot <give them the> encouragement you can, as he is tyed down <& you not,> but it is deceiving both Governm^{ts}., & I shall <writte to> M^r Shirley on y^t Subject & in y^e mean time I would have you send out as many as you possibly can <on> my account, He cant get Blanketts &^c if you cant & if Money getts them, you Shan't want for y^t. I am very Glad to hear my Friend Hendrick is on the recovery & pray let him know y^t I Say so.

I have paid the 430 pd to Craige a long time ago, let me hear from you as often as possible. Spair no expence to communicate any thing to me worth my knowing, & I have given orders to Holland to forward imeadiatly packits y^t he shall receive from you y^t requires haist by Battoe or y^e quickest & best Meathod he can, & so Shall M^r Saunders be repaid any Expence he may be att for y^t Service.

I have just meet y^e Assembly this day & desired they would give dispatch to what I have recommended to them especially to y^e building Two forts at Carrying place¹ y^t I intend for Albany as soon as possible.

Ive no more to at present but shall write Soon, & am Sir
Your very humble Serv^t

G CLINTON

¹ "Two Forts are to be built at the Carrying-place, towards Crown-Point." From Governor Clinton's speech to the Assembly March 25, 1747, *Journal of the Legislative Council of New York*, p. 963.

Just now arrived a Vessell in 10 weeks from England brings
no news but hope he may have Some things we may want
COLL JOHNSON

FROM MARY RIORDON

A. L. S.

[March , 1747¹]

HONOURABLE S^R.

Being a poor Distressed woman and haveing a young Child
and not haveing wherewith to Subsist in this town is Desiroures
to travel towards pensilvenia But not haveing any thing to Bear
my Expences Do make Bold to write to your honour Hopeing
of your goodness and Bounty will take in Consideration to assist
a poor Distressed woman and in so doing your poor Distressed
petitioner will for your wellfare Ever pray

MARY RIORDON

ADDRESSED: To the
Right Honourable
Colonell Johnston
Esq^r
This

FROM JOHN H. LYDIUS

A. L. S.

Albany Aprill 21 1747

CORNELL JOHNSON

S^R

I receaved Yours of Aprill 17th thiss Instant with the Inclosed
for Which I Return you tanks I have sent you T[h]ree Paks
of Ladder according to Order And the Tow Guns. I have
Nothing to mention that is New as that Coll^l. Roberts² is Come

¹ Conjectural date.

² Lieutenant Colonel John Roberts, *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*,
6:314 (note).

and is to morrow Going to Saragtoge Majer Rudderford saluts
You as Doss my Spous and Incloss You a Letter from Major
Williams which I Receaved Jesterday

P S

I als send You 25 Lim[e]s I had for You from Mr Burns
and 15 from P. Van Alen hoe Desirs to know Weder he is to
take Down the flower Now or The Nex Trip or wen ever You
order it. in Hast I am Your True Frind and Dutifull Servent
To Comand

JOHN H. LYDIUS

ADDRESSED: To Cornell William Johnson Esq^r
att Mount Johnson

TO GEORGE CLINTON

In *Doc. Rel to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:343-44, is an extract from a
letter of Johnson to George Clinton, relating a fight between friendly
Indians and the enemy, dated April 24; inclosed in Clinton to the Lords of
Trade, 1747, May 12. Another account, believed to have been inclosed
in Clinton to the Lords of Trade, 1747, September 27, is in the Public
Record Office, C. O. 5.1061, London, England. It exhibits numerous
slight variations from the other copy.

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

A. L. S.

New York 25th April 1747

SIR

You will find by y^e <Paragraph on ye other side of a> Mes-
sage I sent to the Assembly <yesterday that I> have taken
Notice of the Endeavours <which I> suspect some people of
Albany have <used for> to obtain a kind Neutrality between
them & Canada.

You told me of some private Messages you heard had been
sent by Indians for y^e purpose. Send me a perticular account of

what you know & have heard on y^t subject & of what you can now or at any time after this learn by further enquiry, I expect you will use all the deligence possible to discover every part of this Scheme & in what manner it has been carried on. I Long much to hear from you for we have most villinous reports spread, I hope the Indians all remain Stedfast & in good health,

In this Bill y^t I am going to pass y^e Council did not it proper to put rewards for Scalping or taking poor women or Children Prisiners in it, but the Assembly has assured me the Money shall be paid when it so happens, If y^e Indians insist upon it. I am Sir

Your very humble Ser^t

G CLINTON

<Gentlemen

You cannot be> ignorant y^t many in <ye Province,> and its Neighbouring Colonies are <perswaded that> the Principal Traders, and y^e Richest Men <in Albany> do not wish well to the Success of any Expedⁿ <against> Canada, & this from a view which a few Men of considerable estates & influence by their family relations have to their private advantage gained by a Trade wth Canada, & is always most advantagious in time of War with France, & which (for y^e Common good) I hope I have effectually Stopt, I must therefor tell you y^t I am Suspicious y^t all y^e Difficultys I met with in my treating with y^e Indians, & engaging them heartily in y^e War, arose chiefly from this Source; For if these men could have prevented y^e Indians joining in y^e War, & could have prevailed with them to declare for a Neutrality, they hope'd to lay me under a Necessity of falling into y^e same Measures for y^e very Same purpose all y^e defficulties y^t could be contrived, without an open declaration of their Intentions were lay'd in y^e way of every preparation that became Necessary for y^e Success of any Enterprize against Canada

This Scheme there is some reason to believe was in concert with y^e Govern^r. of Canada from a Message which he sent to y^e

Six Nations at y^e time of my last Treaty wth them, wherein he tells them That he took pity of their Brethren at Albany & would from y^t time turn his Indians from y^t Place on their most inveterate Enemies of New England.

ADDRESSED: To Coll^l. Johnson
 at Mount Johnson
 To y^e Care of M^r Rob^t. Saunders
 At Albany

JOHNSON'S SPEECH TO THE INDIANS AND LETTER TO GEORGE
 CLINTON

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:358-63 are printed Johnson's speech delivered April 25 to the United Nations, and Johnson's letter of May 7 to George Clinton, showing the difficulty of managing the Indians without an ample supply of goods, arms and provisions and restriction of the rum traffic.

FROM JOHN JOHNSON

A. L. S.

Smithtown May the 12th 1747

DR BR

After many repeated letters wrote both by my father and I, it has been a sensible affliction to us that we have not had a letter from you more than two years we had long since given over the thoughts of your being in the number of the living thinking that nothing but death could have prevented you from giving that great satisfaction to my father and [] all. the late acc^t. I have had in a letter from [] Warren of your being well makes me write [] more in hopes to have the pleasure of hear[ing from] you and if possible to be inform'd what motive [in]duces you not to Enquire for us or give us the pleasure of informing us of your well[tear as you may be assured the hearing of your being in a prosperous scituation would be

Equally agreeable to us as happy to yourself, now Dr Br. I Expect nothing will retard my hearing from you and as my Br. Warren informs me you deale to London and cannot but have correspondents there who would carefully forward your letter to us and as nothing would be a greater happyness to me than to hold a close correspondents with you; the Bearer hearof Mr. Clark Johnson is a friend of ours [ear]nestley re[co]mmend him to you if in your power [] him Either as to your own part or by your inf[luence] with my Unckle or Cozen Tyrrell if requisite as [] people are so good natured till foreign Climates change us. I must trouble you to let me know what became of Patt Flood¹ & James Rogers my Father gives you his blessing and my sisters Joyn in love to you who am Dr. Br.

Yours affecly.

JOHN JOHNSON

ADDRESSED: To Mr. William Johnson at Mount Johnson in the County of Albany in America

FROM JOHN ROBERTS

A. L. S.

Schoneghtadey, <May 24, 1747>

S^R

I had your favour and have since seen Cap^t Broadheads Lieutenant who informs me there was 24 Private men left at Fort Wm.² I am much supprised to hear those Companys have acted so contrary both to Reason and their own Intrest, as they were begining to be paid & the season of the year must inevitably deside the direction of the Troops in Six or Seven weeks, at farthest and how much more commendable woud it be to have prosicated the expidition or been paid and discharged with honour and reputation, then behaved in the Scandalous manner they have

¹ See Bryan Flood to Patrick Flood, June 5, 1741.

² Fort William, later known as Fort Williams, at Rome, N. Y.

done. however to prevent all ill consiquencies that might happen from it, I have sent Cap^t Ross with his Company as you desired I have reason to belive from their behaviour hitherto, that they are the properest Company for that staytion As I am unacquainted with the present Situation there, I have ordered Cap^t Ross to march to Fort W^m. and Possess him self of that Fort till he receives your orders. You will direct the remainder of Cap^t Broadheads Companys in the manner you shall judge proper wether to joyn or otherwise. if they incline to take the first part of there pay now sent up till the rest comes which will not be long first I will order it. but as it is for there conveniency and not mine I shall not press it. fourteen Companys are paid. I shall pay two more to morrow. Please to let have your answer with the number of men &c. I am with a Sincere attachment Sr:

Your most obed^t. hum^l. Servant

J ROBERTS

Forgive blunders for I write with twenty People talking round me

To COLL^o. W^m. JOHNSON

ADDRESSED: On his Majesties Service

To Coll^o Johnson at Mount Johnson

JOHN STODDARD TO JOHN H. LYDIUS

Contemporary Copy

<Nth Hampton, May 26 1747

S^r

I rec^d yr of Aprile 23 & the 5th instant (if I remember right) which I sent to Gov^r Shirley, with a large Letter of my own wherein I represented to him the > Difficulty that you and <Coll. Johnson would soon be reduced to in Case> the Governments did not Supply <with money & Goods to enable you to De>fray the Charge of fitting out the <Indians &c. I wrote pressingly to> him & urged that he woud send a thousand <Pound in Bills of the last> Emission, before the sitting of our Assembly, <that woud be a little> Comfort to you, and

Encouragement to the Indians <till the Governments> should have Opportunity to agree upon the Manner & proportion <of> Supplying for the Indians. I let him know in the best manner I was able, the discouragement the Indians would be soon under, in Case the Governments did not take effectual Care to recompense the Indians Service, & although he did not think proper to send any Money or Goods till the assembly should meet (which was to be in a few Days) yet by his Letter to me he seemed Convinc'd of the Necessity of sending ample Supplys and will promote the same in the Assembly; he has likewise written to Gov^r Laws¹ that he would Encourage their Assembly in their present Session to Contribute to the Charge of the War now carrying on by the Six Nations. I have also written to Gov^r Laws for the same Purpose. Gov^r Shirley likewise tells me he will write to the other Governments, and I cant but Expect a good Issue. I intend very shortly to go to Court where nothing shall be wanting on my part to obtain Supplies for the Indians, that they may not be discouraged, nor you nor Coll. Johnson be Sufferers.² You know that I am limited by the Act of Court, and that I cant advance any thing to fit out Indians unless they take their Departure from hence & that I am to pay so much ^{per} Prisoner & Scalp, which I am sensible is inconvenient, and think the way that you & Col. Johnson take is preferable, and I dont see but that you may proceed hereafter with the Indians in the same Manner, though you & I shoud Compute what I am to pay in another Manner (viz) by so much for a Scalp & so much for a Prisoner if the Indians have their Money it seems not material in what manner provided the sum Exceed not what they might challenge <in Consequence of the Act of Court.>

¹ Jonathan Law, governor of Connecticut, 1741-50.

² In the New York Historical Society are six letters from Lydius to Stoddard, dated November 20, 1746, March 26, May 8, May 31, June 5 and September 19, 1747, in which are mentioned a visit of Johnson to New York, French prisoners, allowances and supplies for Indian fighters, the disposition of the Massachusetts Representatives to save Johnson from pecuniary loss, and an expedition undertaken by him with Lydius. The last-named letter mentions inclosed letters of Johnson.

<Therefore, I desire you for the Present to send out so many Parties as (if they are Succeeded) may probably bring in twenty or thirty scalps & Prisoners, &> I will pay you the <Bounty of our Government for them,> & I hope there will be Opportunity <to give farther directions,> but I hope before there will <be farther occasion,> the Government will take another method <& directly make> remittances to you, to be Employed in the <best manner> you can.

<You> are sensible that there are difficulties that attend us in managing this affair, for our Bills of publick Credit are not well accounted of with you. New York money is not easily obtained amongst us, and I dont think that our Goods at Boston, especially Strouds are any way Equal to what is sold at Albany, and should be glad you would let me know whether it be best to send any Goods from Boston, and what sorts if any. Powder & Lead (I suppose) we have in plenty. Vermilion is 4 fl. 10s. 0d. old Ten^r. Garlix are Plenty, and you know what other sorts better than I can tell you. I hear the Parliament have made a considerable Grant to reimburse the Charge of Cape Breton Expedition and 'tis probable that good Payment may be made by Bills of Exchange, should therefore be glad to know how much y^r People give in York Money for a Bill of one hundred Pounds Sterling and whether it will suit Coll. Johnson to take a Bill of Exchange for any thing he may Supply the Indians withall upon the Account of our Government:

I hope you will be able to Inform me of the Success of several more Parties. When you send any Parties on my Acc^t Please to let me know their Numbers, & the names of their Com^{dr}s & when they return Please to let me have the best Evidences that can be had of the Scalps, and Prisoners taken by them — Please to give my humble Regards to Coll. Johnson.

I remain S^r

y^r very humble Serv^t.

JOHN STODDARD

to MAJ LYDIUS.

Copy.

FROM JOHN H. LYDIUS

A. L. S.

Albany May 29 1747

CORLL JOHNSON

SR.

Yours of the 25th I receaved with the Agreeable News of the success of the Indian Parties Returnd I sent the Gove^r. Letter y^e same day I Receaved it By John Bekmen hoe I suppose will to Morrow bie in New York Peter Van Alen is Come bak this Nite and Desiers to Know Weder he is to take the Peas and Remender of the Flower Now Down this trip —

Robert is Not Come bak with him Nor Did he Rite a Line also I Desird him to send a peas of Pennestin and some Limes or Juse

I have Returnt a Bagger to Gitt You a score of Limes which I send You I had them of Major Rutherford and D^r. Cahoen hoe Desiers to be Rememberd to You and Join with Me in Greaf for the Pane we Lern You suffer I Just heard by one that Run away from the Gard of New Englend Peopel a Going to Hosick with Provisions that thay were ataked by sum Indians the Particulars we will have when the Wagons Returns in Hast I Remen Sr.

Yours to Comand

JOHN H. LYDIUS

ADDRESSED: To Cornell William Johnson Esq^r.
att Mount Johnson

TO GEORGE CLINTON¹

A. Df. S.

May the 30th 1747<May it please Y^r. Exccel^{cy}.

You cannot Conceive the Uneasiness y^r long Silence gives me not having the Honour of a line from you since the 30th of April,

¹ Compared in part; original badly burned and faded. This letter, some matter being omitted, is printed in William L. Stone's *Life and Times of Sir William Johnson*, 1:255-57.

it now being the only time that I want Assistance of Money for Scalps and Instructions most, Haveing such Numbers Every Day abt. me, going to Warr, w^h. takes abundance of Arms, Amunition, & Cloathing, and am quite bare of most of those things. Y^r. Excell^{cy}. will consider that what I have rec^d. is but a mere trifle, among so Many as I have to distribute it among, Altho never So Sparingly done. & were it not for My own Store & what goods I was obliged to buy I should have been obliged to have dropped the Affair Some time ago, w^h would be verry hard after all my trouble to bring them so heartily to our Interest. I am quite pestered every day wth. partys returning wth. Prisonners & Scalps & not a penny allowed me to pay them, w^h. is hard upon me & verry displeasing to them I assure you, for they Expect it, & demand it of me, as Soon as ever they Return w^h. I mentioned to Y^r. Excell^{cy}. in my last of the 25th Inst. as also the Return of Lu^t. Thom^s. Butler & his party wth. 8 prisonners, & another party of Conajoharees &c^a. with 3 prisonners & 2 Scalps. all those plague me daily for their Money, & want to be going out again directly, & now if they find the present is not ready here for them. they tell me this was but a Draw to incourage them upon w^h. I told em their Money was ready by the Com^{rs}. only produce their pris^{rs}. & scalps to them, w^h. they declared they would not, neither did they think that they had any more to Say to them. Wherefore I wish Y^r. Excell^{cy}. would please Consider of it shortly. This Day arrived another party of Mine consisting only of Six Mohawks from Canada, wth. 7 prisonners, & [3?] Scalps, w^h. is 4 more than they had Men in Comp^y. & what you will seldom or never hear of. I thank God there is nothing wanting or backward in my affairs. Wherefore hope Y^r. Excell^{cy}. will not let me Suffer or the Cause drop for want of things requisite to carry it out w^h. I shall always give y^u. timely notice of.

If Y^r. Excell^{cy}. intends to come up Soon to Albany, I should be glad to receive y^r orders consarning the Indians comeing down, for thy certainly expect to be called, or invited down this Summer by you, or Else by me. I am positive I could do more wth. them

here by farr, than if they went to Albany & not above quarter the Expence. because there they are Corrupted by Evil people, & drink all the goods they gett, wheras here they have not that opertunity, but can bring them home & Shew their familys what they had of you, w^h. would incourage them much more over here I have all my Counsellors the Mohawks & Conajoharees, with whose assistance I could bring them to anything. There is nothing more requisite at present than Some blew Camblet, red Shaloon, Good ¹ lace & white Mettall Buttens for to make up a parcel of Coats, for some Cheif Warriours who are now out of the Seneca's &ca & others daily Expected. wherfore I wish Y^r. Excellc^y would please to Send me up ff first opertunity 4 p^s. of blew Camblet, as much red Shalloon lace Sufficent for it, & ab^t. 20 good Castor Hatts, wth. Scallop lace for them all white lace if to be had, if not Some Yellow wth. it, this I assure Y^r. Excellc^y goes a great way wth them. being gained so mostly by the french always and of Consequence w^t thy Expect from us and are promised it at present. There is three Months pay due to my officers & People the 1st. of June and as thy are all up on hard Service wth. the Indians daily require their pay w^h I hope y^r. Excellc^y will please to pay Unto M^r. Anthony Duane Merch^t. In New York, who will give Y^r. Excellc^y. a receipt for it. I also should be glad Y^r. Excellc^y would advise me how I shall gett the Money for the Inclosed Acc^t. being now a Year due almost & by y^r. orders. Just as I was finishing my letter arrived another party of Mine Consisting only of Six Mohawks who brought wth. them 7 prisonners & 3 Scalps. w^h. is verry great for so small a party I have my houses &ca now all full of the five Nations, Some going out to Morrow against the French, others ab^t. News, w^h when finished shall let Y^r. Excellc^y. know. My Peoples success is now the talk of the whole Country. I Expect in a Short time Severall More partys Home from Canada I belive Hendrick will be the first who I dare Say will bring a great Many wth. him dead, or alive, so that we will Want a great

¹ Probably Gold in the original.

deal of Money among em all. thy have brought in this Spring as follows —

first by Liu ^t . Walter Butler & his Party from Crown Point	
the Scalps of Men.....	6
By Liu ^t . Thom ^s . Butler & Party Prisoners.....	8
By Canajoharee Party..... 3 prisoners.....	3
Scalps	2
By Gingegoe & party.....prisonners.....	7
Scalps	3

this Spring.....Totall.....29.

If the money is sent up to me for this use I shall give Certificates of their Age, & render a Clear Ac^{ct}. thereof & the Indians shall receive it all in Dollars, & not be cheated as thy would be by others, who would only give them Some trifles of goods, Rum &ca. for it w^h. usage has ruined our Indians mostly. I am wth. the greatest respect Y^r. Excellen^{cy}s. Much oblidge, Humble Serv^t.>

W^m. JOHNSON.

To GOVERNOUR CLINTON

TO GEORGE CLINTON

*Contemporary Copy*¹

[Mount Johnson] 31st. May 1747

having daily such Numbers of Indians about me for Scalping money, Arms & Ammunition &c: & as I am quite bare of most of those things & y^r. Excellency knows what I have receivd is but a trifle among so many, & was it not for my Store, I should have been obliged to drop the Cause.

Every thing answers beyond Expectation.

This day arived another party of mine consisting only of 6 Mohawks from Canada with 7 Prisoners & 3 Scalps, which is a thing seldom heard of.

¹ In *Public Record Office*, C. O. 5.1095, London, England.

The Indians would be pleased to receive their Money in Dollars

Nothing more wanting than thin Stuff for Coats, for War-rieries laced Coats, Hats with open lace, Ruffled Shirts

Wanting 4 pieces blew Camblet 4 pieces red Shalloon, Silver lace for trimming some broad some Narrow if not all Silver some Gold as last Year. 20 Caster hats with scollop Lace a parcell of Bullet Moulds for casting Ball & Swan Shot

W^m JOHNSON

INDORSED: Abstract of Coll

Johnsons Letter 31st May
1747

TO JOHN HENRY LYDIUS¹

FROM TEADY MAGIN²

Oswego 2th <June, 1747>

COL. JOHNSON

S^r

This is to acquaint You that Cassieneunt two Sons is going down to fight Against the French with Eight Indians and Ottrowano is gone to his Castle to gett his fighters in readiness and then he will be down with You as Soon as possible I have had the Happiness to Stop the Connout here at Oswego in his Voyage to Canada — he also will be down and his Son Likewise. I have also true Intelligence that Seaven Castles of the foreign Nations will joyn with Us and the five Nations wherefore I begg you will take good Care for those which I now Send down to You; No more at Present but my Service to all good Friends with this I Conclude S^r.

Y^r Most Humb^l. F: & Ser^t

TEADY MAGIN

N B I have also Stoped two Onondagers in their Vouyage to Canida they will also be down with all Speed by Land

ADDRESSED: To Co^l William Johnson
att Mount Johnson

¹ Letter of June 1, 1747. See Appendix.

² Letter is in handwriting of Thomas Butler.

FROM JOHN CRAIG

A. L. S.

*Oswego June y^e 6, 1747*CORN^{LL} JOHNSONS^R.

Yours I Recevd and am Hartly sorry for to hear of Your Disorder. I houp the Joy of Yowr New Prisnors that is Come By Mr. T. Butler will Give You Eais of Yowr Pain. I hear ther is 8 I have sent down 3 packs of Befer and one of Skins and small fers and 9 smal Bear skins By Isack Coylar if Befer is at a hay Pris plis to sell it or send it to My wife if Not Stor it till I Come down and You will oblige Yowr Ever affexoned frend and servnt

To Command

JOHN CRAIG

P. S. Plis to forward y^e Inclosed to My wife and I Beg you will Mis No oppertunity to let Me Know how Show is

I have Spok to y^e 3 ofisers hear and told them that y^e only thing they Could Dow was to let you have y^e half of y^e Substans that they had Not men for or they Might Depend on it theu should have No Mor Alowans then they had men and they ar very mouch affronted and says that it is No los to you for y^e Goverment Pays You for it. I told them that you should Be a Great louser By it for you wer forst to pay £8 wher formerly was £4 But I ashur your if you wold send as Moch Mor they have nid of it Cap^t. Butler to Give to y^e Indins that Make him Presents and Cap^t. Fisher and Leu^t. Babtest to sell By y^e whol Bags to the tredars if y^e tredars had Not a Suplay hear from the Offisars I ashur you they shuld sterfe for ther is skers aney hear that Brings Mor than serves them up and Down they By flowr for 5/ pr Skipel pis¹ for 4/ Pork for /6 pr pound By ther Manigment they Kipe the Gerison alwis in a por Condishon and still Refleks on you they told Me they wanted 13 Berals of Pork yet and Meall peas and Indin Corn a great Deall

¹ Peas.

FROM BEYER BOIN AND ACOS VAN SCHLEYCK

A. L. S.

[Burnetsfield, June 8, 1747]

COLLENEL JHONSON

Myn Heer, ick ende Myn Swager Acos Van Schleyck, Seynde geneegen om Naer oswege te gaen Handele, So is ons Versoeck an Myn Heer of VE: ons wilde Voord Sette met eenig Handel goed ende twe oxhooft Rom met den erste, lat ons doch weete, of wey het kenne Hebe, wey Sellen Het haale in Schonechdade of in Albany

Wey Verbleifen met Respect

VE: Dienstwillige Dienars

REYER BOIN

ACOS VAN SCHLEYCK

ADDRESSED: To Coll^r. W^m. Johansen att or Naer Mohaxt Land

Translation

COLONEL JOHNSON

SIR: I and my brother-in-law Acos Van Schleyck being inclined to go to Oswego to trade, our request is whether your Honor would be willing to favor us with some merchandise and two hogsheads of rum at the first opportunity? Kindly let us know if we can have them. We shall get them in Schenectady or in Albany.

We remain, with respect,

Your Honor's obedient servants,

REYER BOIN

ACOS VAN SCHLEYCK

ADDRESSED: To Coll^r. W^m. Johansen at or near Mohawk's land.

FROM JOHN H. LYDIUS

A. L. S.

Albany June 16th 1747

CORNELL JOHNSON

S^R.

We have Letters in town from Cap^t Jordin from Saragtohe that the Schoharie Partie John, the Rever Indian wass Come bak there without Success and Brings an Account that thay saw 300 Burch Canows Arive there who where saluted with 12 ps Cannon and thay answerd with small arms thay on their Can-oews had 2 wite flags and 2 Drums and that the Next Day sat out to Come on this way! I am suspitious that it is in sommagers Soo wherefore I wiss Your Honor would in the first place Make your self Rady to Reseave them wormly and in the second place send Out som Careful Indians to Reconater them the Account is with sum slited

I hope Your Honour will Juse this Prudence for fear of a surprise — Robbert is Not Jet Come if Anything New With Your honor I wiss you would Give us part I Conclude with subscribing to be sincerely your Humbel servent

JOHN H: LYDIUS

P: S Cap^t Trent has much the same Account as is Come from Swege by the way of Pensilvania of the Indians in the French Interest to have brok with them and their killing some of the French Trader Near the Lake Erie and that 160 wass gon to Attak the french at Tejugsagsonti of which success we will soon hear

ADDRESSED: To Coll Johnson Esq^r.
at Mount Johnson

FROM COMMANDING OFFICER AT SARATOGA

Contemporary Copy<Saratog, Saturdy: night, June: y^e 20th 1747

Copy:>

I wrote you <Last night which was> Giving you an acct of the <Unhappy Ingagemt, we had> yisterday¹ with the Frensh and <have thought proper to> write to you Again this Evening for the <followg. Reasons> This morning ab^t ten of the Clock a Frensh <Indⁿ Came running> towards the Garrison and made all the <Signs of A Distress^d> person fired of his Piece Laid it Down and Came <up to the> Garrison and Desired to be admitted in. Which was <Grant^d> And has made the following Discourse to witt. Hee says he <Came> out of Crownpt Under the Comm^d of one Mons^r Lacore² who is Command^t in Chief of the whole party which Consists of <twelve> Compan^s And Since he has Tould Us he has four Thous^d Frensh And Ind^s. And he further Tells Us that Mons^r Lacore went Up to the place of Rendev^s which is the Great Carrying place After the Engagem^t with M^r Chews who with the Rest of the prisoners are Sent to Crownpt Mons^r Lacore has Left Mons^r Laguel As Comm^g: officer of Three Hundrd men. Who are Constantly Seen in the Woods Round the Garrison and he Says his Dissign is to Intercept All parties Coming from Albany And that Mons^r Lacour is Expected Down from y^e. Carrying place with the Rest of the forces Under his Comm^d. this Evening. and are Determened to Stay Here Until they Can have Several Guns, Provsions, &^c: that they have Sent for to Crounp^t. as thinking it Impossible to Reduce this place with^t Them tho Hee says they have got hand Granad^s Cowhorns Shovels & Spades & firearrows in order to fire the Blokhouses which that party attempt^d. to Do that fired Upon the Rounds from Under the Bank. the person appointed to Φ form the Same had a Blankit

¹ June 19. June 30, new style.² Luc de Chapt de La Corne St Luc.

Carried Before him that we Should not Discover the fyer upon the point of the Arrows, tho they not finding things Accord^g: to their mind thouht it Best to Come the Next night and Undermine y^e Blokhuse N^o 1 which they Understood the Maggez^e was in. but now I have Rend^d it Impossible by Levelling y^e Bank and Am in Such a posture of Defence which will Render it Impossible to take y^e Garrison with Small arms or any thing Else they have with thime.

INDORSED: <Ogeewana is my name>

ORDER OF GEORGE CLINTON FORBIDDING JOSEPH CLEMENTS
FROM TRADING IN SPIRITUOUS LIQUORS WITH
INDIANS OR SOLDIERS NEAR
MOUNT JOHNSON
D. S.

By his Excellency the Hon^{ble} George Clinton Captain General & Governour in Chief in & over the Province of New York & Territories thereon depending in America, Vice Admiral of the same & Vice Admiral of the Red Squadron of his Majesty's Fleet.

Whereas complaint has been made to me against Joseph Clements, at or near Mount Johnson, that he the said Joseph has (after frequent warnings to the contrary) made it his business to sell to the Indians & Soldiers in & about the Fort at Mount Johnson, Ale, Beer, Sider, Rum, Brandy & other Spiritous Liquors, by which means they became drunk, & unfit for any Action, either in defending the said Fort, in case of any Attack or observing & annoying the Enemy; These are Therefore, in his Majesty's name to command the said Joseph Clements in no ways (from the Date of this my order) to sell, give, exchange, or cause to be sold, given, or exchanged any Ale, Beer, Sider, Rum, Brandy or any other Spiritous Liquors whatsoever, to any

Indian, or Soldier in & about the said Fort, on his Peril, & in case the Said Joseph for himself, or any other person or persons for him or their Selves, Shall not strictly observe these my Orders, & obey them according to their Intent & Meaning, They shall be prosecuted by his Majesty's Attourney General to the utmost rigour of the Law. Given under my hand & Seal at Arms at Fort Frederick in Albany this Second Day of July 1747 & in the Twenty first Year of his Majesty's Reign.

G: CLINTON

INDORSED: Orders to forbid Clement Selling liquors to Indians, or Soldiers att Mount Johnson

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

D. S.

By his Excellency the Hon^{ble} George Clinton Captain General & Governour in Chief of the Province of New York &c: &c: &c:

Whereas The good of his Majesty's Service, the Safety of the defenceless Inhabitants of Conajoharee & the protection of the Indians (that are in Allieance with us) depend entirely on the preventing any Surprise or Incursion from the French or their Indians; These are in his Majesty's name to require & direct you immediately to repair to Conajoharee & there to fix on a proper and convenient Spot of Ground to build a Fort on containing one Acre more or less, to be Stockaded in the best and Strongest manner you can, & to erect two Blockhouses in the most convenient part of the Stockade, capable of containing at least one Company of Militia, to do duty there, & to keep watch night & day; And what expences you may be at in building the aforesaid Fort, I shall recommend it in the strongest manner to the Assembly to reimburse you. And the Commanding officer of the Company of Militia at the said Fort is directed & Commanded to keep the s^d Company in strict Discipline by exercising the men

every day in Arms, that they may be upon their guard to prevent any Surprize from the Enemy, and protect not only the Inhabitants of Conajoharee, but the Indians (in our Alliance) that shall repair to the said Fort, for doing which this shall be your sufficient Warrant.

Given at Fort Frederick, this second day of July 1747.¹

To

G: CLINTON

COLONEL WILLIAM JOHNSON
at Mount Johnson

INDORSED: Orders from Gov^r. Clinton to me to build a Fort at
Conajohare
Anno 1747

TO JOHN HENRY LYDIUS²

FROM JOHNSON TO CLINTON

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:386-87 is a letter of July 17th from Johnson to George Clinton, showing the success of negotiations with Oghguago and Six Nation Indians.

FROM JOHN H. LYDIUS³

Albany July 30th 1747

HONORED SR:

Sins my Las with the Rum we have an account in a Letter from Phillip Livingston Jun^r⁴: To Tom Sharp of the Arival of 13 Sale of Man of War and a Rumeatch⁵ at Luesburg Not Nowing what may be their Dissine with a Confirmation of the Success of our forces by Sea Cornell Mareiell is Arived Yesterday bak from Sarigtogeth with the Loss of on of Capt Clarks men hoe wass Shot

¹ In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:358, in a letter of July 23d from George Clinton to the Duke of Newcastle, is mention of the activity of Johnson's Indian war parties. In v. 6, p. 383-84, is given a conference, held at Albany July 16th, between Governor Clinton and 30 Mohawks, who accompanied Johnson to this city.

² Letter of July 17, 1747. See Appendix.

³ Original destroyed. ⁴ "Ind" in the proof.

⁵ Rum hatch?

by a french indian in Going up with this Goss 8 Brigh Yong fellows from Westenhok to Join any party your Honor Pleases to Direct them to Hoe are fitted with all Nesesaries Ther Has ben Brot Bak 28 Desertors from Sopis the Offesers fierd on them and Shot one Tru the Sheak and one tru the Tey on which thay all prenderd but to hoe Run for it and Got off I have had a Litte. of Your Trobel with this 8 fellow as I wass alon my wif is Indisposed for this or six Days

I Subscribe my self to be yours
To Command

JOHN: H. LYDIUS

TO GEORGE CLINTON¹

Col^o Johnson Letter Aug^t 4, 1747

S^R.

It is with much difficulty I can get time to lay pen to paper having my house & all my Outhouses Continually full of Indians of all Nations & more of late than Ever there is [] a day I can assure y^r Excell^y. but I am Obliged to Sit five or Six hours in their Council to hear what y^r. have to Say & Answer them in Every point but my Satisfaction is I can say my Endeavours are not in Vain, as I find there will be no failure or delay on their Side having daily Messages & Assurances of y^r. inviolable Attachment. The best & most Trusty of the Six Nations have by my Solicitations wrought Strongly on y^e foreign Nations & I my Self Last Winter by Constant Invitations, & by Belts of Wampum, after their Manner have Secured y^r friendship also, & now find them ready at a Call of the Six Nations with whom I have prevailed the last meeting to Send for, which is Accordingly done, wherefore as I must Expect Numbers to Come down Upon this Call it will requisite that your Excel^{cy}.

¹ Copy in Massachusetts Historical Society. With omissions and less important differences, the letter is printed in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:387-88.

provide in time whatever may be necessary for their reception & fitting out; for y^r. all Expect to be Supplyd here by me as being their rendezvous. Y^r. Excel^{cy}. may be Sensible that what I have already had will come farr Short of a proper Supply for y^e Numbers that may be Expected, and as things are Carryed So farr, without due Encouragement for these Indians it may move a resentment in them at their disappointment that may Effect y^e whole Continent — as to my Self Shall be Obliged to leave my Settlements & make y^e [best?] retreat I can, If I am not furnished & Enabled to fullfill my Engagements with those Savages, I must advise y^r Excel^{cy}. that those forreign Indians who are desirous to Joyn us, were formerly in the french Interest So that in Case y^e Expedition Should Drop, it would be well worth the Expence to Cultivate friendship with Such a powerful ally wherefore hope it may be Considered — Ottrowana the great Cajuga Indian and others of the five Nations, Since they were with y^r Excel^{cy}. at Albany has informed me at a Meeting at my house in a private manner, but with much formallity by Belts of Wampum that the forreign Nations Viz: the Chenondadeys &c were resolved to Destroy Niagara as being an Impediment in their way to Oswego. where they are sensible they have been always well treated & much Imposed upon at Niagara having been Stopped there this Spring by their Artifice & Obliged to pay 20 Beavers for one Stroud Blankets besides Several other Impositions; they have applied to the Six Nations privately for Liberty to Undertake the reduction of Niagara, which they are likely to Obtain, having the Consent of Some of y^e Chiefs of Each Nation, tho' I am rather of opinion that a proper Number of y^e Kings Troops Ag^t it in Conjunction with y^e Indians who are So hearty would make it more practicable, besides it Seems to me there would be a Necessity of keeping a large Garrison both there & at Oswego, for y^e french would not Quietly brook y^e Loss of it being of y^e greatest Consequence to them next to y^e reduction of y^e whole Country, I Shall Send & Speak to y^e Six Nations in as private a Manner as I can, to know their Disposition relating to our

making Such an Attempt & Shall Acquaint y^r. Excel^{cy}. as Soon as I am Informed.

I am resolved to Send M^r Visgher one of my Lieu^{ts}. immediately to Oswego with a Cargo of Good[s] Arms Ammunition &c for y^e use of y^e forreign Indians & also of the Six nations, who Chuse to go from thence Ag^t y^e Enemy I Send y^r Excel^{cy}. the Indians Speech & my answer to it as Likewise their reply to that wh may Convince all people that what has been inserted in the News papers relating to their disiring a peace with y^e french is a Villanous Libel for Iam Certain the Indians had no Such Tho't neither did they no do they design any Such thing. Their Resentment Ag^t. the French &c being higher than Ever.

Last week I Sent out 3 parties of Indians of y^e Six Nations two of them I Sent to Canada & one Consisting of 12 men to Crown point, they are all firmly resolved to Destroy whatever they meet of y^e Enemy either French or Indians

W^m. JOHNSON

TO GEORGE CLINTON¹

A. Df. S.

Mount Johnson, August 13th. 1747

<May it please y^r Exxcelle^y:>

This is to let y^u. know y^t Since My Last, <Ive Sent Lieu^t> Visgher to Oswego wth. a Cargoe of goods <Arms &> Ammⁿ. for the Use of the foreign Ind^{ns}. &ca. <as you> will see by the orders inclosed. w^h. I hope <will be of> great Service. I also Inclose y^u. a Message <Sent> by the New England Indians to their Uncles the Mohawks & their Answer to it, by w^h. all people may see that <they> are in Earnest, and resolved to proceed in y^e. Warr.

I this Day had an Acc^t by an Indian Express from Oswego that there were a great Number of Seneca's & Some of the

¹ See Johnson to Clinton, August 14, 1747, in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:388-89.

foreign Indians with them, (Called the Flatheads), comeing down to me wth. Severall belts of Wampum, one whereof is a vast large one, almost like the Warr belt y^r. Excell^y gave the Six Nations last Summer, which belt must Import a great deal of news. I expect them here in 2 Days and am making Every thing ready for their reception as Soon as I hear all their news, and done wth. them shall let y^r. Excell^y. Immediately know the purport of it.

I also send y^r. Excell^y. my Acc^t. in full since last Decbr, w^h. I would have paid to M^r. Antony Duane, if y^r. Excell^y. pleases; his receipt shall be a Sufficient discharge therfore. I also Inclose your Excell^y. a letter from Leiu^t. Butler at Oswego, to his Son in the Mohawks, by w^h. y^r. Excell^y. may see how Unfitt he Is for that Duty at present. I made bold to write y^r. Excell^y. some time ago ab^t. the Money for Osweego <Suplys> w^h. I never heard of Since, wherfore, would be much oblided if y^r. Excell^y. would only give Duane Directions how to get <it.> I hope y^r. Excell^y, & Council will consider what a loss I must sustain by Supplying the garrison of Oswego at this Dangerous time, when <I am obliged to give Double the Hire now to Men as was usuall, and not to be had Since the Murder Committed at Burnets field w^h is in the Road. Wherfore have been obliged lately to gett some Ind^{ns}> at an Extravagant <price to go with some Battoes there,> And now can get <no More of any kind to go without> a good guard, the road being <realy too dangerous. Wherfore,> hope y^r Excell^y in Council will <Consider of it.> I Spoke to y^r Excell^y when in albany ab^t <Necessarys> for the Men destined for the Indian Service <but> find nothing done in it. Not haveing one pair <of> Indian Shoes for them, without which they cannot go through the Woods. I proposed doing great Service wth those Men, & Indians together, but it seems I may not have the opertunity, for there is not even one of y^e. Compy^s w^h were ordered for that Service, moved up here yet which makes the Indians think worse

& worse of Us after y^r Excellcy Assureing them they should be up verry Shortly.

I lead a most miserable life among them at present. Occasioned by so many disapointments. I can already find out that the Men will not go upon such Service without some addition to their pay being verry hard duty. Wherefore could heartily wish, for the good of the Service, in Severall respects, that there might be something done in it shortly. [*it would be money much better applyed and do 10 times the Service to the Country that the Outscouts or Bush lopers, as they Call them do, who are employed ab^t. Albany & Kinderhook to little or no purpose this is not only my opinion, but that of the generality also*¹] I hope y^r Excellcy will pardon me speaking my Sentiments. There is one thing I Wish y^r Excellcy would please to Consider of, w^h is my Extraordinary Expence of keeping severall hands imployed to attend the Numbers of Indians I daily have at my house, these 12 Months past as also a Clerk who with Myself &ca, have more work than Man Can well bear Which the Country is verry Sensible of. So I shall leave it to Y^r Excellcy^s. Consideration What to do in it. As I have in my last of the 4th Ins^t. ~~¶~~ Ab^m. Dow acquainted your Excellcy of the Necessity of Sending up a Supply of goods, Shall only now let y^r Excellcy know w^t is proper, least you be at a loss therein so inclose you a Memorandum of w^t is most requisite for this Service. <The Quantitys Shall leave to Y^r Excellcy.

Linnens, I am quite out of, haveing not one piece left, there being nothing so much need by y^e Men Women & Children. As I shall be oblidge< Shortly to trouble Y^r Excellcy. with <another Scrawl,> Shant add further, but that I am <wth the> greatest respect Y^r Excellcy^s. Most Obedient Humble Serv^t

W^m. JOHNSON

¹ Words italicized and within brackets are erased in the original manuscript.

A Memorandum of w^t goods are most requisite for the Indian Service

Blankets of 20 to the p ^s . & 25	Indian Awl blades
White Walsh Cottens	powder
blew & black Strouds	lead
3/4 Linnen & y ^d . Wide	Shott
Virmillion	flints
light guns	Kettles
Pistolls	Looking Glasses
Cutlashes	Scizors
Long knives	Razors
Axes	

Bullet Molds & Swan Shott D^o.

Red gimps, or binding for the Hair as a Sign.

Without all those Articles, You Cannot fitt out an Indian Warriour Compleatly

To GOVERNOUR CLINTON

LETTERS TO CLINTON

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:384-85, is a letter of August 15th from William Shirley, at Boston, to George Clinton, deprecating Johnson's displeasure at his employment of Lydius in Indian affairs; p. 388-89, is a letter of the 14th from Johnson to Clinton, telling of an Indian delegation on the way to his house, the difficulty of supplying Oswego and the need of a fresh supply of goods; and, p. 389, is a letter of the 19th from Johnson to Clinton, announcing a purpose to lead an expedition to Lake Sacrement. Johnson's of the 14th is found substantially with other matter in his letter of the 13th, here printed.

FROM JOHN ROBERTS

A. L. S.

[August 22, 1747]

S^r.

I yesterday call'd a Council of Warr and inform'd 'em of the Command you was goeing upon, and the occation of it; and that

you had applyed to me for Men: I likewise acquainted them of what number I had detatched from the four Companys at Schoneghtady and the two upper Companys, and desired their advice upon which the Officers declared that the Camp at present was very sickly, those upon recovery yet too weak to do duty, that it wou'd be therefore hazzarding the preservation of this Citty in the present Situation, to detatch any Body of Men from the Camp; Maj^r. Clarke who was just return'd with the Command that went to Saraghtoga informed the Board that he thought the Garison of Fort Clinton when he [came?] away was in a M[utino]us disposition there [] judg'd it necessary to have a Sufficient force here, shou'd they come away in a Body either to stop and quel such Mutiniers, or to immediately take possession of the Garison shou'd it be deserted. I have given some leave to go as Voluntiers. I heartily wish you Success and a pleasant March. I am S^r.

Your very hum^l serv^t.

J ROBERTS

FROM HENRY VAN SCHAACK

A. L. S.

[August 22, 1747.]

SIR

I intended to have delivered the inclosed Letters myself: But was disappointed in getting over the Ferry. M^r Butler desired me to acquaint You, that if you should have occasion for the French Blanketts, at the price I have offered them at. He would go down to Albany and forward them Up to You: My B: upon application made, will dd any Quantity you may write for. I am Sir

Your most ob[t h]ble Servant

H V SCHAACK

Fort Hunter Fryday Morning

LETTERS TO CLINTON

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:390, is a letter of August 28th from Johnson to George Clinton on his expedition to Lake St Sacrement. There is a copy, showing some variations, in the Massachusetts Historical Society. *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:385, has a letter of the 31st from William Shirley to George Clinton, complimenting Johnson and saying that he will lay extracts from Johnson's letters before the council and assembly at Boston.

REPORT OF A JURY ON MURDER OF AN INDIAN

D. S.

[August 1747?]

HON^d: SIR

This Evinin Melcart Van Dusen agoin Hom In Corli Van Eapses Pasters Saw the tow Senekes Indans that left your Hon^s: House Yesterday one of them Being Murdered returned and made Report of it Cap^t. Cornyn & I Sumonsed Severill of The Neighbors as Jury but on our coming to Barent Wemples we Examaned the Indan he calls himselfe Tom who confessed that he had Mordred the other We examined the Corps and Found Severell cuts with a Hatchet In the sam plases as he had confessed We sumonsed such of the neighbors as understod Indan we have desird them to sertyfy that thay understod the Indan and wold be glad to know what your Hon^r. wold have done ferder in the afear M^r Hendrick Wemple will rec[ei]ve your Commands

We are Hon^d: Sir your Dutyfull Hum^{ll}. Ser^{ts}...

Saturday Evning

JOHN BUTLER
PITER CONYN
JELLES FONDA
EVERT VAN EPS
BARENT WIMPLE

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

A. L. S.

New York, 7th Sept^r 1747

SIR

My last to you <was dated y^e 20th of Aug^t & Soon after I> received yours of y^e 14, 17, & 19, <acquainting me of your intention> of going out with a party of Indians <& Christians uneasy> I have been ever Since affraid y^t letter should be y^e <means of you laying> aside such a Glorious design which must always <redound greatly> to your Honour & Reputation, & ought to receive y^e thanks of y^e whole Province for what you have already done for it, but am Sorry to Say instead of publick thanks you have y^e. Frowns of an invertirate Assembly as you will see by y^e. inclosed Resolves,¹ but hope you will receive thanks from their Superiors.

I must now Acknowledge y^e receipt of yours of y^e 28th of Aug^t w^{ch} I immeadiately communicated to ye Council & Assembly in hopes it would have touched their Souls, but notwithstanding it was delivered to them before their Resolve ab^t y^e Provisions for Oswego it had no effect on them.² I really think y^e inclosed Boston paiper ab^t. Insurers very Apropos to those y^t wishes for a Neutrallity here the only difference is y^t these People didnt So much as seemed to be pleased with y^e March, but this I will venture to say y^t tho' these Stubborn Dutchmen wont do you y^e Justice they ought, yet when I represent to His Maj^{ty}. y^e vast

¹ September 2d the Assembly resolved "that no additional allowance should be made to the Contractor for victualling the Garrison at Oswego," *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:669.

² On October 6th Governor Clinton, in a message to the General Assembly, strongly commended Colonel Johnson's services. The jealousy inspired by these services is disclosed in two declarations made before Edward Collins, justice of the peace, by Jacobus Clement and Johannis Clement respectively, August 23 and 26, 1749, in which it was maintained that Johnson's Indian regiment was a fictitious organization and the expedition of August 1747, an enterprise without sincere purpose. The declarations are in the custody of the Oneida Historical Society.

progress you have made beyond any reasonable Expectation by y^r good Management & most Extradinary interest with y^e Indians which you Surprizingly Cultivate & continually improve your Conduct and behaviour will be greatly approved of by His Majes^y & in Such a manner as may Show these Wretches you have merited your Royal Masters favour in a great measure preserving not only this, but all y^e Northern Colonies from ruin.

I acquainted General Shirly what you desired in relation to Lydius who desired I would acquit you he was sorry you had taken <umbrage at Lydius¹ being concerned with you in what have been done by His Governm^t towards securing y^e Indians of y^e Six Nations in our Interest; He would not have you imagine y^t. himself or any part of y^e Governm^t put Lydius > services in ye least computation <with your own or y^t y^e Indians> have been engaged in acts <of Hostilities ags^t y^e French> by any persons influence but <yours under my directions;> & your Uncle S^r Peter to whom <his letters on> y^t head & y^e Duke of Newcastle² has been shown can inform you y^t he has <done your> Merit all y^e Justice in his Power.

As for my part I think this Expedition you have now taken to be of Such infinite Service to this & y^e Neighbouring Colonies, y^t tho I was determined to be at no more charges for y^e Indians at y^e Expence of y^e Crown, yet I can^t avoid doing it again in Justice to you & y^e brave Indians who was on this party with you, for which reason what ever Goods & Expence you are at on your return & you think proper to give to satisfy y^e Indians I will give you my Bills on y^e Treasury for, but then I must desire you to give it out, & to let no body know to ye contrary, y^t you take this

¹ At a meeting of the provincial council at Greenwich, May 8, 1746, that body "did advise his Excellency to write to the Commissioners of Indian Affairs to know Why they think it true that Mr. Lydius has sent a large packet of Letters to Canada And by whom that packet was sent, And to order the Secretary to write to Mr. Lidius Signifying That his Excellency Orders him not to intermeddle with the affairs of the Indians either directly or indirectly without his Excellency's approbation first obtained for that purpose," *Council Minutes*, v. 21.

² Thomas Pelham-Holles, Secretary of State, 1724-54.

Expence upon your self from ye faith you have y^t ye Assembly can^t refuse to pay you for Service y^t is so absolutely necessary for ye safety of ye People of this Province I would send you up Money to do this but as I writt you word in my last of ye 20th y^t I could not get a farthing on ye account of this Man of War going to England I should therefore be glad you would take Bills for ye acct you Sent me & add this to it. Your Uncle can Sollicit it, & I promise you to do all in my power both with ye Duke of Newcastle & Mr Pelham¹ to get them Immediatly paid, & I can assure you you may depend on Mr Shirly's Interest in it Intirely. I believe you had best come down & we could both Settle things to both our Satisfaction.

Commiss^{rs} are come from Boston to Negotiate a Scheme for securing ye Indians & Frontiers & Expect others it will not be amiss to acquaint ye Indians of it, but I hope Mr Shirly & I shall Soon agree upon something to keep ye Indians Steadfast in our Interest which I am <just now sending away an Express to him about.

The Man of War won^t Sail till ye letter end of this Month.>

You have Severall <friends on ye Spot who> heartily wish you well & a great <deal of Success & I> do assure you nobody does it more <heartily than,> Dr Sir ,

Your faithfull friend & Ser^t

G CLINTON

<I must> caution you to be <on y^r> Guard, for some people <who> ought to have a greater regard for you than they ever Showed consid<er>ing ye alliance between them & S^r Peter has some designs not to Serve you take my word but them selves, Await with great impatience to hear from you

P. S. I have inclosed you Teddy Maggins Acc^t for you to make ye remarks & let me have y^r opinion. The Assembly has done nothing as to an Interpreter

COLL. JOHNSON

¹ Sir Henry Pelham, prime minister, 1743 and 1746.

FROM WARREN JOHNSON

A. L. S.

<New York, September 13th 1747>D^R BROTHER

last tuesday I arriv'd here from Louisbourg <in order to go to> England in the Scarborough Man of War, having got <leave> from Governour Knowles,¹ & the Commanding officer of <the> Regiment I belong to. it was the Opinion of all my friends <at> Louisbourg it would be greatly to my advantage to go home as it was plain Sir W^m. Pepperrell does not deseign giving me a Company; by his having had one in his Gift, <when> he gave me the Commission I bear now & at that time told my Uncle Warren, & me he had dispos'd of it. Cap^t. Jacobs whose Company I expect'd, is arriv'd at Louisbourg being Order'd to his post. he asked Sir Peter Warren a few days before he left England if he would buy me his Commission; he told him he expect'd Sir Will^m Pepperrell woud give me the first vacent Company in his Regim^t & when he found to the Contrary he woud get me a Company in Europe. D^r. Brother two days ago I was favour'd with yours of the 22^d. of last Month wherein you acquaint'd me of your Resolution in going out with a large body & Christians, & Indians against the French, & their Indians, I hope e'r'e now you are return'd Victorious not withstanding which I asure you it gives the greatest Concern imaginable that you Shou'd undergo so much danger & fatigue for an ungratefull Set of people may the Almighty preserve you from all the perills & dangers which you undergo which Always Shall be my Constant wish.

D^r Brother I most heartily thank you for your present to me in your last letter, all I can do in return is to acknowledge your great favours with a most greatfull heart

<I make no doubt you have heard of my Uncle Warren's great Success in his two Cruzes, being the first with Ad^m Anson and the second he> was Commander in Chief of a <large

¹ Commodore Charles Knowles, governor of Cape Breton.

Dear Sir's

I received an Express from (all)
yesterday who acquaints me of your return, I am
glad of this Express & coming of I should have
seen you unless it is, if we may expect to see you
at York, I have recommended your affair again to the
Assembly at Albany but have received no Answer, I have
great hopes, that Congress for Boston & Connecticut
will do something for relations to the Indians they seem
very inclinable, However will act I don't know till
they promise fair, The Express is just going, I have
only time to assure you again I shall ever do to keep
them quiet if it is possible, I promise to do by you & support
with all my influence as I will be before you may be assured
of Governor Shute's, I hope you are well tho' I do suspect you
much fatigued &c.

Yrs. Dan. V. Clinton
Greenwich 14 Sept^r 1747
To Col. Johnson.

92.49

Ge. Clinton

Squadron part > of which fell in with the St. Domingo < Fleet & took Sixty > two Sail of them, beside Several Rich Ships before he fell in with them. he now must be one of the Richest men in England & not one has done his Country so much Service; he must be worth three or four Hundred Thousand Pounds Sterling, he's Vice Ad^m of the White & a Member of Parliment for Westminister, & make no doubt in a very Short time will be a Pier of England, there being no person more Able to Mentain that dignity. Dr Bro: I am not as yet determined about going to England as I shall take Lady Warren's advice if she desires it I can go with the greatest Safety Otherwise Shall not, least I shoud disoblidge my Uncle, I Receiv'd a letter when last at Louisbourg from my Sister Dease who was very well, the letter I shall enclose to you in my Next as I shall Miss no Oportunity while here in Writing to you. in my next I shall write you fuller of all things untill when remain with the Heartiest wishes for y^r Wealfare & Prosperity.

Your most affect Brother

COL: JOHNSON

WARREN JOHNSON

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

A. L. S.

DEAR SIR

Greenwich 14th Sept^r. 1747¹

I received an Express from Coll^o. Roberts yesterday who acquaints me of y^r return, I dont Suppose you knew of this Express a coming or I should have heard from you, unless it is y^t we may expect to see you down at York, I have recommended

¹ In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:379, in a letter of September 27th from Clinton to the Lords of Trade, Johnson's services in promoting Indian warfare are recommended to consideration. In a letter of the same date to the Duke of Newcastle, Clinton commends Johnson's services in like terms, page 396. In Assembly to Clinton, October 9, p. 619, and Clinton to Assembly, October 13, p. 628, Johnson's claims and services are discussed. In *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:618, is printed Johnson's examination taken October 3d before a committee of the council, showing the necessity of liberal treatment of the Indians and advising the erection of two forts in their country.

your affair again to the Assembly ab^t Oswego but have received no Answer, I am in great hopes these Commission^{rs}. from Boston & Connecticut will do something in relation to y^e Indians they seem very inclinable, How ours will act I dont know tho' they promiss fair, The Express is just agoing & I have only time to assure you again y^t what ever you do to keep them quiet for y^e present, I promiss to stand by you & Support with all my Interests & as I writt you before you may be assured of Govern^r Shirlys, I hope you are well tho' I do suppose very much fatigued & am D^r Sir

Your very humble ser^t

G: CLINTON

To COLL^o. JOHNSON

FROM JOHN CATHERWOOD

A. L. S.

New <York, 19th October 1747>

DEAR SIR

I hope His Ex^{ys}. Pacquet will reach You soon enough, and I have just time to tell you that the Assembly has voted the Provisⁿ for Oswego. His Ex^y has receiv'd Pacquets from M^r Knowles & M^r Shirley w^{ch} he is answering that I've no time to say any thing. I've laid your other dimands before the Assembly this day, except the £30 for sending the Goods for the far Indians to Oswego w^{ch} must be charged to his Ex^y. I believe it will be required to swear to all y^r Acc^{ts} for His Ex^{ys}. getting them & w^{ch} are to be transmitted to the Duke of Newcastle, it can be only to the best of Your knowledge & belief considering the many Articles in your charge. <I've> inclosed you two printed Copys of His Ex^{ys} Message to the Assembly for your & your friends perusal and I am D^r S^r

Your ever faithful & aff^t. Servant

JN^o CATHERWOOD

ADDRESSED: To Colo<nel> William Johnson
at Albany

If not there to be forwarded to him

ORDERS OF GOVERNORS SHIRLEY AND KNOWLES¹

His Grace The Duke of Newcastle having in his Letter to Governour Shirley signified That His Majesty finding it necessary to employ the greatest part of his Forces to assist his Allies and defend the Libertys of Europe had thought proper for the present to lay aside the prosecution of the intended Expedition against Canada, and Commanded him and Governour Knowles to discharge all the Forces raised for that Service (excepting such as they shou'd judge necessary to be kept in Pay for Serving the Province of Nova Scotia) and to thank the officers and Men in His Majesty's Name for their readiness and zeal to enter into his Service. In consequence thereof We do hereby discharge all the said officers and Men (except Four Hundred) out of His Majesty's ² from the 31st. October 1747, and they are hereby discharged accordingly, and we do also thank them in His Majesty's Royal Name for their readiness to engage in their Country's Cause against the Common Enemy; and though they are prevented at present of revenging themselves on a cruel perfidious Enemy, it cannot be doubted, but the same zeal and spirit will always animate them to service again whenever they are called upon. Given under our Hands this 28th. day of October 1747.

W. SHIRLEY³
(Copy)

CHAS: KNOWLES⁴

¹ Copy attested by Governor Clinton.

² Probably a space left to fill in.

³ William Shirley was born in Sussex, England, in 1694 and died at Roxbury, Mass., in 1771. He practised law in Boston, was governor of Massachusetts from 1741 to 1745 and 1753 to 1757. The expedition of 1745 against Louisbourg was devised by him; in 1755 he engaged in an expedition intended for the reduction of Niagara; and in that year succeeded General Braddock as commander in chief. He was a member of the boundary commission constituted under the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle.

⁴ Sir Charles Knowles received a captain's commission in the British navy in 1737, saw service in 1739 and the two succeeding years, and in 1748 defeated the Spaniards in an action near Havana. In 1763 he became admiral of the blue, and the following year was raised to a baronetcy. In 1747 he was governor of Cape Breton.

I have examined this with the Original & attest the same to be true. New York 9 Nov^r. 1747.

G. CLINTON

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Governour Shirley and Gov^r. Knowles' Order for discharging the Troops rais'd for the Expedition ag^t Canada.

FROM PHILIP RYLEY

D. S.¹

Schenectady Octobr. 31st. 1747

Then Rec^d. of William Johnson the Sum of Sixty Pounds, to purchase goods for the Use of the Cajugas, According to the Agreement made by the Commissioners of three different Provinces, I say rec^d. by me

PHILIP RYLEY

£60

FROM WILLIAM PETERS

A. L. S.

New York Nov^r: 6 1747

COLL: JOHNSON

SIR

Acording to y^r order have sent with Cap^t Van Ala

2 Pots with Pekels and Pappers..... 0 — 18 — 3

2 Casks with 14 hundred oysters..... 1 — 8 — 0

the 2 Casks..... 0 — 5 — 0

With Jacob Bargardus

one thousand Pikl^d oysters..... 1 — 10 — 0

Cage 0 — 2 — 6

4 — 3 — 9

¹ Body of document in handwriting of Johnson.

SIR

I Send you a Small Present of 30 Lemons in a Small Cage to Drink the King halth I would have Sent you Some Limes but none to be got at Present If any Cumes in Shall Send Some

if you would Plesse to Keep for me 4 p^s of Y^r. best Strowds till y^e Spring 2 of Dark Culard [blue?] & 2 Reed with a Very List & half a P^s: of Blankets

I wish y^u halth & Prosperity & [am]

Yours with Esteem

WILLIAM PETERS

ADDRESSED: To Coll. William Johnson
att Mount Johnson

FROM JOHN ROBERTS

A. L. S.

Albany Nov^r. 18 1747

S^r.

I propose disbanding the Forces next Thursday according to the Gov^{rs}. intimation. I have sent M^r. Tho^s Buttler a Warrant for Empowering him to Inlist a Company of Sixty Effective Men on the Province Pay the Conditions of which I presume you are already acquainted, if there is any Friend of yours tha[t] you belive has Intrest to raise a Company and have a mind to recommend I shall serve him with a great deal of Pleasure and have Blank Warrants by me for that purpose, and wou^d advise the timeliest notice. I dont propose staying here above ten days at farthest. I am S^r.

Your most Obed^t. humble Servant

J ROBERTS

To COLL^o. JOHNSON

[] I wrote the above I have your favour Per Cap^t. Ross. I wou^d advice writeing to the Gov^r. as I shall have nothing farther to do with the regard to Companys now

raising. It is to be wished a Company or two Could be raised up with you when they may be retained there, nor do I conceived the Men can do better then to enter on this Servi[ce] I should be glad of your Answer per first oppertunity and am Sr

Very Much Yours

J. ROBERTS

FROM JACOB GLEN

L. S.

Schon^{dy} Nov 30th 1747

S^R.

As I am Informed, <you have the offer> From his Excellency, To Com<mand the forces> that are now Raised, if So and you <Could Prevail> Your Self to Accept it I Really Believe <it would> be a great Benifitt to this Cuntry, and be pleasing To All your Real friends that have the Happyness to know You Besides you will Verry much Obleidge y^r friends in this Town and in an Extraordinary manner

Your friend & Verry Humb^l Serv^t.

JACOB GLEN

P. S. our Esembly are Dissolv^d last Tursday after passing the act for the New Levyes Now Last Risen

ADDRESSED: To Co^{ll} William Johnson
att. Mount Johnson
in the Mohawks River

FROM THOMAS BUTLER

A. L. S.¹

[Albany, Dec. 12, 1747]

[
[] [ma]de it Great part of My busness Since you
[] to find out here who were To Set up for Assem-
bly [] [Dow] and Mr. Ricktman Seems To be

¹ Address burned off.

the two that is [most talked of but] in oposition To those are John Cuyler.—[John G]len. John Lansing. and Hans Hanson and Some talks [] old ones. Most people belives that Those you [favor] will carry the point. there are some who are very []ted. knowing your Intrist to be too Great for theirs [] have no News from York. but Expect it every hour [] [p]rivate Meetings here but kept pretty close. but So [on as wr] its arives all will break out []s]ires his Compliments To you

I am Sir

Your Most Obedt. Huml. Servt.

THOMAS BUTLER

ADDRESSED: To

[Sir Will]iam Johnson

att

Mount Johnson

FROM JOHN B. VAN EPS

A. L. S.

Oswego 15th Decembr 1747

DR SR.

This is to aquint y^e that we are all here In a Goodt Halt as I hoop y^e may all be Except one of the melitie man Nicolaes Eggemont Is Deceas^d. In Cloosd I send a Receet of y^e Goods w^h: Livt. Visgar Lift here as Cap^t Lindesay demand Thim & a List of y^e Beef but If thim Cattle w^h. Rune away Is Chiarge toe Lase¹ I am always willing to alouw w^h. Is a Great Loast to us one Cap^t Lindesay keeps for a milks kouw & A Receet In full w^h. we Can Not well Doe for fear the man may Complean for Coarn from the Castel we have Goat none so I hoop that we may have peas by & Coarn by the furst as for The Rest wie have full anof Tongse I have 21 w^h. I hoop Will Shiare alyck the hang up Ready Curde 307 ff Tallo w^h Is but verry Liedle we Live here Soberly & agreeable Together as well w^h. the man

¹ Loss?

as our Selfs the Greatest Truble we have Is w^h. The Indians for here Is Nouw 50 had the old Speaker onjaka Roode did here 3 days a Goe & was Burried verry Deasontly by our Cap^t Lindsays man as also his wyf about a mont agoe. the Indians wyf w^h. Is In Albany preson thould us all about him & about our Schaims w^h. ware In Canada She Says that he & She was hird by the france at Cadarogkwie to goe to Canada & when they waer there 70 feyters went out, but he reafusd a fue days after went out 100 france & Cagnewakes where he was one of w^h. a Gread dile of promises y^e Gover^r. made him, & that She was not by when y^e Gov^r. Spook w^h. our 5 Nacion but when thy made there Ans^r. Stood by & hard all, Father wat y^e Thould us we Grant It, you have Desyrd us Not to Listen Eny more to our Brother, It Shiall be so, Three Jaer a goe then y^e Engelis took Capporrotune, & then thy Thould us that thy whould Stoop up y^e River, & also whould heve Morjall In a Shiart Time, & the Least Jear thould us that the Expodision would Goe an, But we She that thy are Lyers & then thy Send y^e Interproters amongs us, & Tells us Come B^{rs}. Goe & fytt, there Is So muts for a priesonar & So muts for a Skulp, But wie will Not, for we dont Lyck our Gov^r., when you desyr Use to Come we all ways do but Not one his This Is wat Shie hard as She Says at Cadarogkwie She hard that there was 10 fyters out against this house but after that She hard that y^e Gover: sent for thim back

I have Recevid the half of y^e Dry Goods as P Recet will appear but 3 of y^e blanckets ware all rottin & Good for Noting & one hund^r & $16\frac{1}{2}$ Gallongs of rum for I filde Out 3 at 3 Gallons & one of $2\frac{1}{2}$ Galn with In one Gall: Sarjt Akerman had 2 Caggs at 4 Gall^s. 17 at 2 D^o 9 at $2\frac{1}{2}$ D^o. Cap^t butler Give one to y^e people went after Collins Liv^t. Tho^s Butler had 2 Down Cap^t Lidesay had 2 for Storigs So that makes up 54 Caggs & Liv^t. Visger one of y^e barrels I had y^e 2 barrels more than Akerman Excepting 3 Caggs at 3 gall^s. w^h. he had more than I as for the Least Jears provision y^e may see by y^e book of Cap^t Visgers & myn he has it but I have a Coppy of it

beseyds 30 Skip^l wh. was Shoold I hoop Sr y^e will Lett Mr. Bleker & Me know if y^e Can Suply us wh. Goods & rom 2 batos In y^e Spring So that we may know how to writt for y^e Goods to Come up Sr as for y^e Goodness & Good Advice I Doe Nott know how to make a Demajns I Doe Assjoer y^e Its Never out of my Thoughts & Shiall Take all y^e Care In Every perticular Ever I can if I Doe a Ting wrang it will be Ennesently I am Sjoer No one Could juse Y^r. Intrest more then I So I wish y^e a Marry Crismus & a happy New Y^r &c I Reamajn

Y^r Most Humble Sar:

JN^o B V EPS

ADDRESSED: To Coll: William Johnson Att Mount
Johnson

P S Post to be payd here by use.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: John B V Eps Letter Dec^{br}. 1747

SPEECH OF STOCKBRIDGE INDIANS TO THE MOHAWKS

[1747²¹]

<Unkle as I sit in my Town I look'd upon you and see you in tears. I come to wipe away your tears and to lift up your head that you may see to open your ears that you may hear and to purge your heart that you may perceive what I am about to say to you. Then deliver a string of wampum.>

Unkle I am about to clear the road made long <ago by our forefathers> which is fill'd up that you may look and see your <Nephew and I> may look and see my unkle. Then deliverd a belt.

Unkle at that place where our forefathers made a fire <under> a tree and used to meet to smoke and converse we now clean and put the brands together and remove all difficulties about <your> Town That we may meet and discourse about Necessary and important Things. Then deliver a belt.

¹ Conjectural date supplied.

Unkle your great men that have died in the war and others where whose bones lye Scatter'd and above ground we now gether together all in one place and bury them, because we would not have the bones of your great men lye scatter'd on the earth. Then deliverd a belt.

Unkle The bones of Your Captains we also Gether together which lye Scatterd and bring them all into one place and bury them. Then Deliverd a belt.

Unkle we gether together all the bones of Your chief women and bury them. Then Deliverd a belt.

Unkle we gether together all the Scatterd bones of Your Young men women and Children and bring them to one place and bury them Then Deliver a belt.

Unkle This is to make sure and keep fast the old friendship that subsisted between our forefathers that the same may Continue amongst us their children. There is many clouds arise about us and if we are not Carefull we shall get into difficulties, let us keep those dark clouds from comeing between us least we should not be able to see one another. I set the Sun on high that it may be noonday that the light may shine clear That we may see our Unkle and that our unkle may see us. Delivered a belt.

Unkle do you keep steady at your place and I will at mine then we shall always know where to find one another. Deliverd a belt.

Unkle The friendship we made long ago with the English we must maintain firm and unshaken. The King of England our father has put Johnson here That we may by looking on him as it were see the King our father. We Behold him as a Strong tree with spreading roots Standing fast having goodly limbs and leaves.

Let us Gether about him and Stand around him and if he falls let us fall with him.

FROM JOHN RUTHERFURD

A. L. S.

New York 7th Jan: 1747/8

SIR

I had t'other day the pleasure of yours of the 24 Decemb^r by Capt Ware & as I hear there's an opportunity of writeing to Albany, I take hold of it to acquaint you that I waited of His Excell^y who has received your letters & seems determined to follow your Advice intirely in Setleing the Militia affairs in Albany County, only as the Writs are out for the New Election 'twould look as if the Governour interested himself too much in the Choice of Members, which tis certainly not proper either for him or any of the Council to do, but the Sooner 'tis done after the Election the better, so you had best Send down a list immediatly of those you think proper & look upon it as done; I'm Certain there's no body knows any thing of the disorderly State of the Albany Militia but will approve of A Change of Officers. As I am thoroughly Convinced you have the Interest & honour of the Country at heart in all your undertakings 'tis with a double pleasure I heartily wish you Success in all your Schemes, both on the publick & your own Account & should be glad to hear from you how all goes, if any thing worth your Notice occurr here or from Europe I shan't fail to acquaint you of it being with great regard Sir

Your most obed^t humble Servant

JOHN RUTHERFURD

FROM THOMAS ARMSTRONG

A. L. S.

New York 13th January 1747/8

SIR

Your favour of 29th Ult. came to my hand the 10 inst. & nottice its Severall contents in answer to which, I have sold No beaver Since my last altho' I have had some people with me but

they dont incline yet to give me 14/ Pd, but I dont in the least fear it will bring that price Especially Since theirs no more to come to market but what you mention is in your hand, when that comes I will go round the deallers & do my best for your intrest. Flower heare is at present prity high your Sortes would bring from 16 to 19/ q C^t. & Wheat 5 to 5/2. dear skins is cald for prity frequently. I deliver'd your Letter to M^{rs}. Craig who with hir family are all prity well only hir self is much afflicted with Sore Eyes Ever Since hir husbands death, as the bearer of this is Just going I have Not time to go to hir to know if She would write you. inclos'd is all the newspappers Since my last. underneath is a memrd^m. from the Ex^{rs}. of Late M^r. Duene if you please your next to give me instructions to Settle it [] all observe them as you direct. as we Expect four Ships from Europe daily wee have not any very matterial news at present nor for some time past only you'l observe wee have had another hall at the French navey & merchant Ships, have in a few days past had the pleasure of haveing receved hear four prity Valuable prizes, part of the fleet which the french men of War was conveying, & as this town has Eight or ten stout privateers in those Seas wee Expect they will do Excellent Service to the Adventuress, when any thing worth Nottice arives Shall be duely advised & am with great esteem Dear Sir

Y^r. most Obed^t. Humble Se^t.

THO ARMSTRONG

Memorand^m.

Collnell Johnston to Ex^{rs}. of Late M^r Duene

To $\frac{3}{4}$ year News pappers £0.9.0

To Commiss ⁿ . for Weig ^t . Shipping off filling	}	---
upp bills Loading &c done both before		
& after the death of the deceased		
_____ this they dont fill up		

ADDRESSED: To Collnell William Johnston
at Mount Johnston near Albany

FROM EVERT WENDELL, JR.

A. D. S.

Albany Jan^y. 25th. 1747/8¹

Rec^d: of Coll W^m. Johnson Nine pounds fiveteen Shillings
being for three fatt Kattle bought by Tho^s. Butler of Petter
Wormwood £ me

EVERT WENDELL JUR

RESOLVE OF THE HOUSE [N. Y.]

Memorandum

The House agree to make Provision for the Pay and Sub-
sistance of the Additional Company from Connecticut, Provided
the whole Fourteen Companys be reduced from Sixty to Fifty
five Men each each, by turning over their Supernumary Men to
such Companys, as are deficient in the Number of Fifty five Men.
If after this Reduction thus made, there remain any Companys
with more than Fifty five Men, such Companys to continue so
until reduced by Death or Desertion to the Number of Fifty five.
And in case any Rangers be employed in scouring the Woods,
at least Three Fourths of them be taken out of the said Fourteen
Companys with some Additional Pay.

INDORSED: Resolve of the House
relateing to the Connecticut
Company &c —

¹ In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:416, in a letter of January 30th
from George Clinton to the Duke of Newcastle, is a commendation of
Johnson's invaluable and perilous services among the Indians.

FROM ALBERT VAN SLYCK

A. L. S.

Schonactenday febr 4th. [1747/8]

COLL JOHNSON

S^R.

Some Indians are now att my House and they Tell me that Mr. Lydias Had promised they Should have one Minister and they Have appointed the Rev^d. Mr. Schuyler¹ of Schohary to Come to them two 3 or 4 Time In one year and they together with the Christain are Willing to pay their part and al[s]o Desired me to go with them to the moquas² to assist them what Some they Could make out they also Spoke to Mr. Schuyler who is Willing to Doe that Service this I acquaint you and Desire your answer no more att present but am with Respect your most

Humble Serv^t. to Comand

ALBET. VAN SLYCK

I Judge In my oppinion that its more honourable for you then to Lett Mr. Lydias thake that Intrest among them I Leave you to Judge

S^R.

You are Sensible I always have done what Laid In my power to Serve the King & Country moreover whilst I was under your Comand I understand you are agoing to New York and Hope you will not forgett me when you Come there & Shall always be as I have been Heretofore and am with Much Respect your most Humble Ser^t.

AL. V SLYCK

N: I hope S^r. if any thing
is not to your mind you
Compute it to my Jumour³

¹ Johannes Schuyler was a minister at Schoharie, 1736–55, Beaverdam and Schoharie, 1766–79, Edward T. Corwin, *Manual of the Reformed Church in America*, p. 710.

² Mohawks.

³ Humor.

FROM ARENDT STEVENS

L. S.

[Albany, February 12, 1747/8]

S^R.

Last night I Recd [] from Ro^t. Adams with Three Ind^s. sent Express from [Oswego] one of y^e. Letters was Directed to your Self but In your [absence] To y^e. Command^r. officer at Albany which Letter is open and Goes with this Express to your Self The Contents of which [] find to be most All ye news Those S^d. Three Cayoegers brings Except They further ad This news is Proce^d. from John C^uer Who [] have ownd to A Friend of his, in y^e Sinnecas Country on Rece^t. And Reading of A Letter Said the Frensh had made Ready and [] which was to proced towards those Quarters, The Ind^s. Say [] Information to Come Ither Ag^t. Moaks Country Schoenect[ady] Albany And they Design to make their attack [] on Receav^g. This Expr^s. Yisterd^y. I forthwith forward^d. one [] with y^e. news. In order I Hired A Slay this day to bring y^e. Said [] with me to this Said place At my Arriv^l. I went to Coll^l. Ma[rshall] who went with me to William^s. were he Sent for Coll^l. Schuyler Maj^r. Collins The mayor¹ and Maj^r. Lydius — Coll^l. Marshall Could not with Divers messingers prevail on y^e mayor to Come to W[] You will find by S^d. Letter what was prom^d. to S^d. Ind^s. which made Coll^l. Marshall more anxious to have y^e. mayors presence his not Coming I was Indulgd by Coll^l. Marshall & Maj^r. Collins^s. perswasions to Go with Coll^l. Marshall to y^e. City Hall were y^e. Corporatⁿ. was present Where Coll^l. Marshall Shued them the Letter After Reading of S^d. Letter they said They had nothing to Do with it it not being Directed to them So that in A Word They would neither Hear me or the Ind^s. any further Ab^t. it nor would they Advance Any thing towards Satisfying Sa^d. Ind^s. Maj^r. Lydius took Them to his House And made them Satisfaction

¹ Dirck Ten Broeck, mayor, September 29, 1746 to October 2, 1748.

to their Contentm^t. I was oblidge to pay their frei^t. from and to Schonegtendy — Am Sorry to find y^e. Country in So Deplorable State that when Ind^s. Comes on Such accou^{ts}. that no Body is Impow^d. to take Care of Them in order th^t. they may Go Bak with Sattisfaction Sr. This further Serves to Acq^t. You That I am Resolv^d. Not at All to medle with Indⁿ. affaires Excepting your Hon^r. Has The ordering of y^e. Same please to acq^t. me & y^e. first for if otherwise I Intend to prepare my Self to Go on my private Aff^{rs}. to Oswego Still Shall Do what I Can Until I hear further from You pray Give my Humble Regards to His Excellency And be so kind to acq^t. him of my Grievanc^s. with my Rispects to Coll^{ll}. Glen & all friends I Remain Sr.

Your Most Humble & ob^t. Serv^t.

ARENDT STEVENS

[] to acq^t. you th^t. Captⁿ. Brat
 [] Almost All his Company my Son
 [] Up to your House And Left it in Good
 order [] Maj^r. Lydius & mySelf tho^t. nessessary to
 send this Express to [] This Creticle Conjunctu^e.
 we Hope you will approve of [] prudence & that his
 Excell^y. will see Him Satisfyed.

FROM JOHN H. LYDIUS

A. L. S.

Albany Fibr 13 1747/8

CORNELL JOHNSON

I have but Just time to Inform you that our Antagenists Reioice att the News of the Governors Leaving the Province as if a Grate Battel woss won Over the Enimi: Collins Tretens Left. Hogin to the Last Degre the Acount of Oswege I Refer You to the Letter from oswege Directed in your Absens to the Comanding Officer And as Nowbodi would Give the Indians anything I Lett them have 4 Blankets strouds 3 shirts 6 pr.

stokins 3 Laps 3 papers pante & an 8 ken Cag of Rum: I shall
Rite to Bratt to Ceap a Good Woatch

P: S if anything wort Notice shall be Obliged to You to
Give us Chear After kind sarvice I Conclude

Yours to Command

JOHN: H: LYDIUS

ADDRESSED: To Coll^{ll}. Will^m. Johnson Esq^r.
att New York

ACCOUNT OF INCIDENTS AT OSWEGO FROM DECEMBER 10¹

[*Oswego, February 17, 1747/8*]

[²]
[] house & told []
[] e to see me & made []
[] isuton and Said he was []
[] all the five Nations wo[]
[] t again call this house the []
[] ns I Shall not mention, I made []
6th off well pleased. This day Came from []
Suscuruana's Son Sent ther by his Father []
told he told me his Father had ordered him to []
Could & tell me the News Least y^e young man ha[d] []
right y^e young mans Acc^t and his was y^e Same b[]
belt was only three Strings Desireing the five [Nations to] Send
H^k to him & he Should Receive no Damag[e] []
all y^e Prisoners Delivered him it being very ha[]
Kept him four days and used him most kindly []
thing I belive he knew he said the Command[er] []
way had sent his Interpreter & Several messages []
but he would not go that at Christmess he went []
by Some Indians he Said he was very kindly used by a []

¹ In handwriting of John Lindesay.

² Some lines at the top burned off.

Pace he Lived in was oweing he knew to the five [Nations]
 & that he had orders to receive them in y^e most kind[ly] []
 & Shewed them a Room full of Pouthers balls and arms []
 to the Indians that needed them; he the Indian told there were
 a [] many of the Caughnuagas hunting in y^e oyr
 Side [] & promised to be at all the Pains he could to
 g[] telligence and if any thing of moment came to []
 his Fahers knowledge he would come to me im[]
 him Self wh^h he could in Litle more than a day. I g[]
 him a Shirt pipes & Tobacco & I belive we may []
 knowing any thing from them as Certainly as if they []
 for Said purpose I Sent him away much Satisfied. []
 10 can 10 anadaga feighters Sent by y^e Sat^m to me with []
 corn hearing I needed Some they also acquainted me with []
 []¹
 [] [and] off well pleased []
 [] Prince's son whom h[]
 [] [o]bey me when he cam a []
 [] & told me how soon he wa[]
 [] to see me I told him I hope he []
 [] []ten had said when he gave him to
 m[] [] obey it he told me all the News
 as Suscuruana [] word of by his son as formerly
 told. he told be [] []he read head was gon to
 Cadroughway & that Sus[curuana] not being able to walk was
 caried ther haveing [] to tell y^e News himself not
 inclineing to trust y^e Rea[d] [Head] told particularly y^e Desire
 y^e Go^r of Canada had to [] Sent ther. Knowing he was
 Inclined to y^e French [] all the Pain I could to Lessen
 them in his Eyes & [] [h]im if he should make y^e Least
 wrong Step it would [] me much asheamed I made him
 a Present of a Cag [] [Rum?] and a Shirt & had abund-
 ance of promises of his []veing well. This day cam the
 [grot a ?] Younga on [] of Trade & as he Said to tell me

¹ Line or lines missing.

he had promised Coll [Joh]n son to Come to me with any news that he heard he told [] [] at affair of y^e five Nations who Live amongst the [] [] nidis as formerly told & Said if any disturbance [] [] o be here he would come to me & would not come [] ne — I used him in y^e most kind mannor & he went of [] h pleased.

[]¹
 [] f I never gave any []
 [] to a Sett of great []
 Cap^t as great a french man as []
 great pains with him as I could but I []
 pose amongst the Onydas who cam from []
 old Anada Sac^m: who not being able []
 very great burdine on me for he being []
 I cannot Let him Sterve I try to get all []
 can of w^h have wrote formerly only he ver[]
 strongly of any Cachnuaga's intending to C[] here
 as the Cauga Squa had informed us [] we might
 Depend that ther would no Distu[] happen here it
 being what all Indians [] on that no Disturbance
 Should be made [] of the three houses on this Lake.
 Jny Canod[] very Considerable Indian haveing been here
 10 Since I cam with his familee & to whom I am [] as I can
 Confirmed this & Said that the Go^r of Cana[da] [] ill
 pleased w^t those who had cutt off the family at [] flats
 & told them that did it that it was Conterer to w[] had
 promised the five Nations & would give them [] for what
 they had done. This day came Atruana [] other Caugas
 20 they on Acc^t. of Trade and he to See me [] them ther
 was a Son in Law of his who told he h[] out feighting
 against y^e flatt heads he told they wer[] powered & were
 obliged to flee to an oy^r Nation [] are friends with, & y^t
 he had Lossed five of his Company [] Also that ther were
 great Sickness in y^e Castel [] Severals were dead. I

¹ Line or lines missing.

told them I was Sory for y^e Sick[ness] was in y^e Castel & for those that were dead but for [] as it came from above they must bear it bu[] y^e Last Loss that they had brought on themself [] doeing what they ought not to doe & neglect []

[]¹
[] that he wanted [] []ing by break of Day he cam to tell [] [] []ssed his wife Last Summer he has not [] [] himself with any news but being [] [] different ways that the french were [] [] []eat preparations to Come against his Bro[] []uld not be easie untill he came & acquainted [] Same he said ther was two Large houses full of []oes Blankets with Caps & all things necessary [] great many Stores it was not knowen against [] place y^e Design was when all was ready for to [] y^e Go^r was to give the Word & he Supposed the [] [t]o be about y^e end of this or begining of Next []unth & the place they were to attack to be Albany Scha[]y y^e Moquas Country or the great flatt or maybe agnist [] the Army being to be very numerous all this he Said []s Comme Confirmed who had Come from Canada as formerly told & he Said he belived the News to be Certain [] thanked him for y^e Information he had given me & told [] would Acquient the Go^r who I belive would reward him [] order me to doe it in y^e meantime I gave him a Cag [] Rum to Dring y^e Go^{rs} health & two Shurts to weep off []is tears and Desired him to mind all the News & to come [] me with them if of moment, haveing no indian I []ould trust I gave him a Letter to y^e Go^r. and one to [C]oll Johnson acquainting them with what he had told []ith which he promised to Send his Son in Law off [i]mmediately with & Said he would call all y^e Indians []gether and tell them at my Desire he had Layen []side

¹ Line or lines missing.

his morning and get those who had been at [C]anada to give
Acc^t of what had happened ther

[]¹

[] Prisoners Delivered them [] asked
how he durst goe to Albany [] wher was his place
this was the Subst[] I thanked them for their news
and asked [] given to Cure they said the Sat^{ims} Lecked
y^e [] Spetsh well in condoleing y^e Death of their
[] ill pleased with y^e rest of this Spetch & that
[] was gon to Consult w^t y^e oyr Sa^{ms} what answer
th[] Two Anadaga feighters cam & told they were

24 sent by [] Sa^{ms} to Acquemt me that he would have
come to See [] fall to tell me all their News and Bring
me [] Desired but his familie fell Sick this and []
wather hindered him & now he was obliged to [] John-
son but how soon he returned he would com[] me & tell
me every thing he knew. This day y^e old [] Canodack
25 & a great many of Said Nation who had [] here ever Since
my Arrivel cam and told me they w[] [] goe home
to their Castel with a Dead Squa I gave [] Some Rum
& provisions & was as kind to them as I cou[] Desired
them to tell their Sac^{tms} that when I cam to th[] []
place I Demanded of them on all occasions to tell me []
news & I took it very unkind that they had not Sent []
an Acc^t of all that had passed at Canada & that they []
as I was informed Sent the read head to Cadroughw[ay]
without acquainting me of it & on what Acc^t I had as they all
knew behaved to them in y^e most kind manner [] I did
when here Last but that their Carriage to me was not y^e Same
which I took very ill They Said they were [] Sencible
how kind I had been to all Indians and [] was oweing to
y^e Sickness in their Castel that Bunt [] not come with
y^e News & that the read head was on [] gone to tell
y^e Death of those they had Lossed by De[] w^h was
Custom one []

¹ Line or lines missing.

[¹]
 [] Oswego nor in y^e way to [] []
 [his] hunting house he took Said [] and Sent his
 owen Son to the Castel w^t the [] Being informed that
 Suscuruana had gon[] []ich discontented on Some Acc^{ts}
 I shall not mention [] greatly for y^e Interest of the
 Country to Plase him [] [] firm to our Interest in
 his present Situation [] []ore Desired y^e young man
 who was his grandchild to []anked him for his News &
 Sent to him a Cage of Rum []ng y^e Go^{rs} health a
 blankete & pair of Stockins to []arm Pips and tobacco &
 Desired the Indian to tell [] Depended on his Sending
 me all the News and if of moment [] Send me an express
 and I gave y^e Indian a Shirt and pro[]ions. This day two
 Senecas came & told me that John Cure [] an Express
 from y^e Go^r of Canada by way of Niagra acquent []him
 that those of the five Nations who Live amongst the [Cha]nundi-
 dies had had an Ingagement w^t the french who Live [] ther
 who are Numerous and Strong & that 10 of y^e five Nations
 []ere taken Prisoners & put in Irons & that on of them Liked
 that []ill that he gave his knife to on of his Compagnions &
 Desi[] him to Kill which he did they told also that y^e Go^r
 of Cana[da] []d Sent eight Large Belts of Wampom to
 the Muas Desireing them to come against us with Sharp Hatchets,
 they told also that a great many horses with Pouthers, balls and
 arms were come from Philadelphia & gon to the River Ohio for
 y^e use of the Indians who Live ther who they say have made
 Sharp war on the french & Indians that are attatched to y^t
 [] Interest this I have also been informed of by oy^r Indians
 []by on who Said he Say them & that Some Scalps were Sent
 []om thence to Philadelphia I thanked them for their News
 []old them they might now See who were their friends &
 who []re their Enemies by the usage the five Nations had rece
 (The ms. closes here)

¹ Line or lines missing.

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

D. S.

29th. Febr^y 1747/8

By His Excellency The Hon^{bl}. George Clinton Captain General and Governour in Chief of all His Majestys Forces in the Province of New York &c. &c. &c.

Whereas I have appointed you Colonel of the Fourteen Companys of Foot rais'd for His Majesty's service in the Pay of this Province, and whereas it may be necessary to hold Regimental Courts Martial for the Better Preservation of Discipline and to Prevent Mutiny & Desertion among the said Troops

I do by Virtue of the Powers & Authorities to me given empower you to Call Regimental Court Martials as occasion may require for the Corporal Punishment of such of the non Commission Officers & Private Men as may be found Guilty of Mutiny Desertion or Neglect of Duty according to the tenor intent and Meaning of His Majestys Articles of War which Court Martials are to consist at least of Three Commission Officers the eldest of which to sitt as President and for so doing this shall be your Warrant.

Given under my hand at Fort George in the
City of New York this 29th. Febr^y 1747

G: CLINTON

INDORSED: Order to Col: Johnson for Holding Regimental Courts Martial.

REPORT OF JAMES DE LANCEY, CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL
COMMITTEE, TO GOVERNOR CLINTON

Contemporary Copy

Feb. 29, 1747/8.

May it please your Excellency

In Obedience to your Excellencys Order in Council the 24th Inst; referring to our Consideration an Extract of a Letter from

His Grace The Duke of Newcastle, to His Excellency Governour Shirley dated the 3^d Day of Oct^r. last We beg leave to Report our Opinion there upon as follows:

The Committee observing by the Extract of the said Letter that His Grace is directed by His Majesty to recommend it in the Strongest manner to your Exc^y & Governour Shirley to employ your utmost diligence & attention to cultivate the Friendship of the Six Nations of Indians & to Keep them steadily attached to the King's Interest & to take care that the Necessary Measures may be taken as well for their Protection & defence against any attempt that may be made upon them by the French in Revenge for their haveing acted against them as for Preserving their Friendship and keeping them strictly & inseperably allied to His Majesty & for that end that such Presents be made them on His Majestys part as have been Usual & shall be judged necessary by your Excellency & Governour Shirley, are humbly of Opinion in order to Promote these His Majestys most Gracious Intentions:

1st: That some Person or Persons of Credit & Influence over the Indians be sent into their Country as soon as may be & Instructed to Use their utmost Endeavours to dissaude them from going to Canada which the Committee think the more Necessary at this time as they have been informed the Gov^r. of that Country hath given them an invitation to go thither this Ensuing Spring, & to render their endeavours more effectual that they be furnished wih proper Presents to distribute among the Indians as they shall find Occation & that they be also directed to assure the Six Nations that a Conference will be held with them some time the next Summer at which they will receive further & more Valuable Presents.

2^{dly}: That for the Protection & defence of the Six Nations against any Attempt that may be made upon them by the French & also for securing their Old Men Women & Children when their Young Men go out against the Enemy, the Forts already begun to be erected in some parts of their Countries be forthwith finished & others built in proper Places & that the Persons to be



THOMAS PELHAM, DUKE OF NEWCASTLE

sent among the Indians as above be directed to consult & agree with the several Nations on the most Convenient Places for that Purpose & they be likewise instructed to use their utmost endeavours to prevail on them to settle themselves as near these Forts as may be which will tend much to their safety.

3^{dly}: The Committee conceiving from the Extract of the said Letter that the destroying the French Settlements at Crown Point is approved of by His Majesty are humbly of opinion that a Copy thereof be sent to each of the Governours of the Colonys not already engaged, to assist therein in order to induce them to Act in Conjunction with the other Colonies in this intended Enterprize & to furnish their Proportion of Men & Necessary Stores.

4^{thly}: That your Excellency & Gov^r. Shirley do make application to Admiral Knowles or the Commanding Officer of His Majesty's Ships of War that may then happen to be Stationed at Louisbourgh to employ some of the Kings Ships to proceed up the River St. Lawrence in order to Occation a diverssion & thereby Oblige the Enemy to divide their Strength while the Attack is carrying on against the French Fort at Crown Point.

5^{thly}: The Committee are further humbly of Opinion; that if your Excellency & Gov^r Shirley shou'd should think proper to join in maintaining a Garrison at Crown Point at the Charge of the Crown in case the proposed Expedition shou'd go on & Succeed, it might not only prevail upon the Assembly of the Massachusetts Bay to reconsider the Alterations they have made to the agreement enter'd into at New York of the 28th of Sept^r: last but also be an inducement to the several other Colonies to Engage the more readily in this undertaking.

6^{thly}: If the Expedition shou'd be proceeded on the Committee are Humbly of Opinion & do desire your Exc^y wou'd be Pleased as soon as may be to order an account to be taken of the Battoes Cannon & Warlike Stores & implements in this Province provided at His Majestys Expense that the several Governments engaging therein may provide & furnish their respective Proportions of what may be wanting for that Service.

7^{thly}: And lastly the Committee are humbly of opinion in order that proper measures may be timely concerted for carrying on the Expedition & to remove any difficulties that might otherwise happen & also to prevent any delay that the Commissioners at the Massachusetts Bay New York & Connecticut do meet as soon as may be at New York or some other convenient Place & that Pressing instances be used to the other Governments to send Commissioners to that meeting.

City of New York

Feby 29 1747

All which is humbly Submitted

by order of the Committee

JAMES DELANCEY, *Chairmⁿ*

Copy

INDORSED: The Councils Report to His Excellcy, on the Duke of New Castles letter being laid before 'em.

INDIANS AT PAUMITTUNNAUSEU TO THE RIVER INDIANS

Feb. 1747/8

A Message from the Indians at Paumittunnauseu to the River Indians.

My Father, Your Son is here crying. A Father will hear when his Son cries; and he will understand his voice: and if he be crying behind him knowing his voice he will turn about to see whats the matter

My Father at Mauhekun, Some years ago I sent you a Pipe; but have heard nothing from you since.

My Father at Mauhekun, I have already compass'd the Frenchman round and laid close siege to him. Where ever he peeps out I kill him. He is so strongly fortified that I cannot take him. I can only Starve him out.

REPLY OF THE RIVER INDIANS

My child, Your Father hears your cries, being himself in poor miserable circumstances by reason of the distresses of the war.

When I lie down at night, I am afraid I shall not live till morning, and when I rise up in the morning I am afraid I shall not live till night; I am so harrassed with the War.

What you told me of the wind blowing is now come to pass, which is the occasion of my calamities.

In answer to your Message I reply; You are grown up to be quite a man. When I was a man in my full strength I used to carry my Hatchet with me. If any Body offer'd me an injury I was ready to revenge it.

I tell you further, if you are reduced to such distress that you are ready to perish, and remember our relation to each other, you know that relation is true and firm

This is the answer from the River Indians to the Message on the other side returnd this present Feb. 1747/8.

GEORGE CLINTON TO JACOB TEN EYCK

D. S.

March 3, 1747/8

By His Excellency The Honb^l George Clinton Capt:
Gen^l: & Governour in Chief of the Province of New
York &c &c &c

You are hereby directed and requir'd to deliver up to Col: William Johnson or his order the French Indian now a Prisoner in Albany when he shall demand him and for so doing this shall be your Warrant. Given under my hand at Fort George in the City of New York this 3^d Day of March 1747.

G CLINTON

To JACOB TEN EYCK
High Sheriff for the City &
County of Albany

GEORGE CLINTON TO HENRY HOLLAND OR GERRITT VAN DEN
BERGH
D. S.

March 3, 1747/8

By His Excellency The Honb^l George Clinton
Captain Gen^l: & Governour in Chief of the Province
of New York &c &c &c

Whereas His Majestys service may require a Number of
Snow Shoes & Tents to be made use of for the Protection of the
Frontiers of this Province

You are therefore hereby directed and requir'd to deliver to
Col: William Johnson what Snow Shoes & Tents you have of
His Majestys in Store if he shou'd want the same for the above
Service taking his receipt to be accountable for the same and for
your so doing this shall be your Warrant

Given under my hand at Fort George in the
City of New York this 3^d Day of March 1747

G. CLINTON

To HENRY HOLLAND Esqr
or in his Absence to
GERRITT VAN DEN BERGH

ORDERS TO ALBANY GUARDS

A. Df. S.¹

Albany March [12, 1747/8]

Coll^o Johnson's Orders []
That the Guards [] to [] to be by
Detachments Viz^t [] One Cap^t. [One] Lieut.
& Six Serj^{ts}. & fourteen pri[vate] Men from each Comp^y: in
Town w^{ch}. are to be Divided into Six Squads: The Captain

¹ Burned about the edges. The lines of fortifications and blockhouses
of Albany were extended from time to time. See the histories of Albany
city and county and Munsell's *Annals*, v. 10.



From Johnson to the Albany guards, March 12, 1748
(First half of letter showing the great illegibility of many of the manuscripts)

a Serjeant to mount Du[ty] & 14 private Men at N^o 2, the Lieutenant a Serg^t & 14 Men at N^o. 9., the four other Serjeants [] their Squads to mount at N^o. 3. N^o. 4, N^o. 6 & N^o. 8. The Serjeants Posted at N^o [3?] & N^o. 4 to [rece]ive their Orders [from the] Cap^t. [of the] Gua[r]d at N^o. 2. The Serjeants Posted at N^o. 6 & N^o. 8 to receive their Orders from the Lieutenant Posted at N^o. 9. One Lieut. to be releivd every 24 hours at the Pa[tr]oon's Mills] to Command the Guards posted there Already — w^h Guard must Consist of one third of that Company In case of an Alarm the Remainder [of the] Companys wth their officers to Repair to the Parade, there to receive Orders from their Commanding Officers.

That every Officer before he marches of [] inspect the Men's Arms & see that they have their Ammunition & that their Arms are Loaded.

That the Eldest Captain mounts [first] Keep a Rotation of Equall Duty [Agreeable to] the above Orders — The Adjnt to form a [] for the Officers Duty — & the Serj^t. of each Company for the Men. [] Patrolle [] [] first Patrolle at 11 a Clock at Nig[ht] [] the third at 3 in the Morning & [] [] of their Duty, to be relieved, Confined & reported [] Officer in the Morning.— Centrys are to take Strict Notice that [] [] Approach the Walls or Stockadoes, of the Citty in t[he] Night, in Such Case, he is to Stop Such, if thy refuse to Obey him, to Call his Corporall, & make them Prisonners That the Corporal who is to go with the releif to their respective Posts, Every two Hours, is to take Care that Each Centinel, gives Such Orders, as he Received distinctly to him that releives him.— That the Lieut & Serj^{ts}. make a Report to the Captain of things [] t hap[pened] on their Guard & the Cap^tⁿ to report [] ole [] manding Officer [Morning?]

The Guard to be mounted at 4 a Clock in the Afternoon.

and not to leave their Posts, or dismount Untill Seven in the Morning.—

That Officers not to leave the town without leave from their Coll^o., Nor Suffer their Men.

(Reversed on the page appear the following memoranda:) Keys.

54

54

50

46

54

50

308

54

3)254(84

16

TO GEORGE CLINTON

*A. Df. S.*¹

March the 15th 1747/8

May it please Y^r. Excell^{cy}.

As I take it to be my Duty to Acquaint Y^r. Excell^{cy}. wth. what passes here in relation to the Service in generall & takeing this to be a thing of great Moment, I have Sent the Bearer, Express therwith As Soon as I had the full Acc^t. w^h. is this. the Outscouts who went out to Scour the Woods, & make further Discoveries, being in 2 parties, (one consisting of three Christians & three Mohawks) & the other of 20 — the former abt. 2 of the Clock in the morning were Surrounded by a party of about 30 of the Enemy mostly Coghnowageys,² One of the

¹ Extract printed with variations under date of March 16th in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:422–24. The manuscript has been crossed out by Johnson as having been discarded.

² Iroquois from Caghnawaga (Sault St Louis), on the St Lawrence river in Canada. See *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:582.

Mohawks Called Gingeo (the Chief Warriour of all the Nations) being awake heard the noise of them approaching on Snow Shoes, wherupon he awakened the rest Imediately & desired them to stand together and fight like men but they finding the Enemy too powerfull took to flight Upon wh. the Cagh-nawagees called out to Each other in there Language pursue them, they are gone that way wee are men, we will [have?] them — meaning thorough a swamp or thicket — Gingeo & another Mohawk haveing Jumpt behind a tree In order to fight, hearing that, Answered I am Gingeo a Mohawk a Man who will never fly from you or Mankind & gave 3 Indian Yelps, or Hollows, & fired upon them, they Imediately fired a Volley at him, Shott him through the thigh & another through the body — Cutt their Heads off, Scalped, or rather flea'd their whole Heads, Cutt of their Ears, nose & lips, & Stuck the Heads on a Sciver befor the fire, wh. when found were half roasted, Sett them on their Shoulders in the Snow, wth. their heels up, & mangled the Bodys in Severall parts, killed & Scalped a Young Dutch Man who lived by my House, & took another Prisoner, So that only two out of that party of Six Escaped their Barbarity, One of them a Christian the other a brisk Young Indian who heard Gingeo Speak them words before he Dropt. This Day the party of fifty Indians, & as Many Christians returned wth. the Heads, & Bodys of two Indians & one Christian, wh. usage enrages the Indians to that degree that I have a hard time of it, telling me it is all My fault, by bringing them to engage in the War so far, and now have no help from Us when they are murdered. for as they observe not one man went out, or could be got to go along wth. the Indians, untill they came to Schenectady, & in 2 Days after the thing Happened there was a Party went out wth. them from thence. Coll^o. Schuyler altho he had Y^r. Excelley^s. orders to have all the Militia in readiness never Sent a line, nor the least orders to any Captⁿ. or officer In all those Parts, nor even ordered one of those Men who were by allotment to be ready for Such Service, to March in pursuit of the Enemy, wth. the Indians Your Excelley. wth. the Council &

Assembly I hope will fall upon some way Immediately to have men ready on Such Occasions without Expense to Assist the Indians, Either In pursuit of an Enemy, or to Meet and Attack them when ever requisite, Otherwise give me leave to assure Y^r. Excellcy, the Indians will be so dejected & that we Shall not by any means in a little time be able to gett one Indian to help us. & on the other Hand if I am but Impowered at this Juncture to Assist them with Men, Arms, Amunition &ca, I dare say there never Could be a better opertunity to engage them all heartily in y^e. Warr, & their allies also, but their greatest Cry is for Men to go with them, for by going in such small Parties as they observe is the only way to have them all Cutt of & destroyed wherfore they are determined to go no More As Outscouts with less than forty, or fifty of our People with them. Y^r. Excellcy I hope will pardon my dwelling so long on this Subject, but as I plainly see the Necessity of w^t. I mention I could not avoid acquainting Y^r. Excellcy. thereof & hope it may be to some purpose for Otherwise there will be no Staying in those parts, for Any of Our People longer, As this Cruel Affair portends a Bloody Summer. If Your Excellcy. thinks Proper, I should be verry glad to have the Commission as Coll^o. of the Regiment, Sent up as Soon as Possible, and then I could do a great deal more for the preservation of the Frontiers, than has been done hitherto, and be able then to have Some Men always ready to go out with the Indians, on any Alarm &ca Moreover Should then be better able to keep the Companys in Albany in More regular Order, for Collins will do all he Can to make disturbance among them Untill then. He makes his brags to all here that Y^r. Excellcy writes him Y^u. are Sorry You Could not give him the Command, & that the only reason was, because the Assembly would not make any Allowance for him. He shews the letter to all people. I shall let Y^r. Excellcy. know Shortly the State of all the Companys, but now have not time as this Affair takes up all my Attentions: This would be the Only time to Stir up the Indians w^h. if I go among them Shall Endeavour to do, but now

it will require a good guard to take with me & the Stores w^h. I hope will be made provision for. I intend if I go among the Nations to Gett Jean Cour down wth. me if possible — If Y^r. Excellly has any news from home, Should be much oblided to You for what may be Communicated. I am With all Imaginable respect Y^r. Excellcy^s.

Most Obedient & Most Oblided Humble Serv^t.

W^m. JOHNSON

TO GOVERNOUR CLINTON

TO JOHN CATHERWOOD

A. Df. S.

Mount Johnson, March the 16th. 1747/8

To Cap^t. Catherwood

Copia Vera

DEAR SIR

I arrived at Albany thursday the 10th. this Inst. after a most fatiguing Journey, when I came to Albany found Every thing in Confusion, on Acc^t. of this Melancholly affair of the Out-scouts being murdered & taken This is the only time in the World to Stirr up the Indians & engage them, & their allies heartily in the War, & is to be done thus, As they Cry out now, we have brought them in the War, See them murdered in the most barbarous Manner, and do not assist them. Others of theirs lying rotting in goal &ca. If we would now Imediately Assist them with Men, Arms, Amunition, &ca they would Exert themselves, and make the french [] pay for it. if that is not done I assure Y^u. Sir we [] not have an Indian to help us in a verry Short time [] they will be quite down Spiritted, & Cowed, if there is not a Number of Men for that purpose to be ready to Join them on Every Emergency. This I find Since I have been away there have been Severall Belts of Wampum, Sent by a Priest at Codaraghque

to all the Six Nations Earnestly desiring to Speak with them Immediately, & Sent a verry kind Invitation to old Hendrick to go & See the governour, which must be put a Stop to as Soon as possible, otherwise all other Endeavours are vain. If his Excell^{cy}. thinks proper to Send me a Commission to go & treat with all the Nations, & Stop them, I shall be ready to do it, but as we may say now there is an open Rupture between the Indians, it will be verry dangerous for me to go out without a Strong Guard, for now they will be all over, and should the french at Codaraghque, hear the least of my going there, as it is verry near Onondaga, they will y^u. may depend upon it, Send to Intercept me if they Can. Wherfor hope there may be provision made for a Guard to go with me. I need say no more to You on that Head. Coll^o. Schyler altho he had Orders from His Excell^{cy} to my knowledge to have all his Regiment in readiness to March on any Alarm, never Sent an Officer the least orders of any kind, Since I have been away, as Severall of the Officers told me Yesterday at my house, Which was very Wrong. I have wrote to his Excell^{cy}. now for the Commission of the Regiment, & then I can do Some thing for the Security of the frontiers, & Satisfaction of the Indians. pray Send me w^t news there is from Europe & also Y^r News there, with the Votes of the House w^h. Armstrong will give you. My time is so taken up at present wth. this Affair of the Indians to Settle them, that I have not time to Send his Excell^{cy}. a State of the Comp^{ys}. but Shall Soon. I have ordered the Watch in Albany to advantage also in Schenectady, & Kinderhook, here is no Difficulty as to th[at.] In the Mohawks, & my house, being present myself Collins behaves the Vilest of any Man liveing & Uses the governour vast[ly] Ill, In Every Shape, he Even Shews his last letter to all people, wherein he says he is Sorry he Could not give him y^e. Comm[ission] by reason the Assembly would make no provision for him, & a great deal more too tedious to Mention. His Excell^{cy} desired I would Send him an Express whenever requisite, wherfore hope this may be paid there, or give me orders to pay them here w^h. y^u. will [] I am quite full of

Indians at present. have been obliged to get my Clerk to
Copy my letter.

I am wth. greatest Sincerity & Affection

Y^r. Most Humble Serv^t.

W^m. JOHNSON

To CAPT^N. CATHERWOOD

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

D. S.

[March 18, 1747/8¹]

By His Excellency The Honourable George
Clinton Captain General & Governour in Chief
of the Province of New York and Territories
thereon depending in America Vice Admiral of the
same & Vice Admiral of the Red Squadron of His
Majestys Fleet

Whereas I conceive it highly Necessary for his Majesty Service
That none of the Six Nations of Indians in Alliance with His
Majesty should be allowed to go to Canada or to have any Inter-
views with the Governour of Canada or the French in that
Country in Enmity with His Majesty

You are therefore hereby required and directed to call
together some of the Principal Sachems from each Castle of the
Six Nations of Indians and to advise them in his Majesty's name
not to depart from their Respective Castles nor hold any Inter-
view with the French in Canada and to assure them in his
Majestys Name That if they with their Allies will Continue
Stedfast in their Engagements to his Majesty all possible care
shall be taken for their Protection and Security against the Com-
mon Enemy as also a Releasment of their Brethren Prisoners in

¹ In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:421-22, is a letter of March 22d from William Shirley to George Clinton in which a proposal to send Johnson on a mission to the Indian country is approved; p. 418-19, is a letter of March 24th from Clinton to the Duke of Newcastle containing a renewed expression of confidence in Johnson.

Canada now. On this Occasion you are to make a small Present in his Majesty's Name & tell them that they may expect an Interview this Summer with the Governour of New York who has orders from his Majesty to inform them of many things to their advantage and at the same time You are to adhere as much as You can to the advice which his Majesty's Council of this Province have given me concerning the said Indians pursuant to their Report of the 29th. day of February last a Copy of which was delivered to You. And for so doing this shall be your Warrant. Given under my hand at Fort George in the City of New York the Eighteenth Day of March 1747.

G CLINTON

To COLL^o. WILLIAM JOHNSON

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Orders to Coll^o. Johnson to Call a Council of all the Chiefs of the Six United Indian Nations, att the Old Meeting place Called Onondaga — Anno 1747

A MEETING WITH MOHAWKS¹

NATH^{ell}: FARRAND'S RETURN OF GUARD

A. D. S.

A Return of the Guard from N^o. 2

April y^e 4 — 1748

att N ^o 2	Nath ^{ell} : Farrand	Sentries 3
att N ^o . 3	Serj ^{nt} Sanderson	Sentries 3
att N ^o 4	Serj ^{nt} Devow	Sentries 3
att N ^o . 5	Serj ^{nt} Evans	Sentries 3
att N ^o . 6	Lieut Sanford	Sentries 3

Nothing Extraordinary happened During our Guard.

from your humble Servent,

To the Hon^{rl} Coll:

N: FARRAND, Cap^t

WILLIAM JOHNSON

Now at Albany

¹ Document of March 20, 1748. See Appendix.

TO JOHN CATHERWOOD

A. Df. S.

April 9th. 1748D^R SIR

I wrote you lately ☞ Doctor Shuckburgh, w^h. I hope you rec^d. wth. £ 8 Cash from Peter Winne I mentioned to you Some of the Officers who had p^d. Collins, I find they have all paid him at the rate of 40^s for a Captⁿ. & Liu^{ts}. Commission I am so much Hurried that with Settling my affairs before I go, that I declare I've Scarce Time [to] write a line, I intend to Sett of next thursday from my House wth. a guard of 50 Men Captⁿ Thomas Butler, & Liu^t. Laury officers We Shall have a fatiguing Journey of it And I reckon pritty Dangerous, for I am informed Last Night by Hendricks Son that the French at Cadaraghque haveing heard of it by Jean Cu[er]¹ were quite Uneasy att the News and Said they would prevent it w^h. is very likely they will attempt it for It would be a [thi]ng of great Consequence to them the worst of it is we must march thorough a thick woods for [a]bove 100 mile on foot to go thorough all [t]he Castles by the Way In order to talk to some of the most obstinate of them privately, before y^e [] W^h is the only way I could ever find to gain [] Point wth this Sort of people. I reckon I shall have a great deal of Difficulty to prevent their going, or Overset all that the French have been doing Since last Fall, However I shall leave no Stone Unturned y^u. may depend upon it, to Accomplish w^t. I go ab^t. Either by fair or foul Means, for if they are obstinate, I mean the Onondagas, I shall Certainly talk verry harsh to them, & try wh^t. that will do. I hope to return (if nothing extraordinary happens) in ab^t. 3 weeks. When I hope to give his Excell^y an Agreeable Acco^t. of my progress. I hope his Excell^y. will not Omitt writeing to me if any thing of Consequence. I have left orders att home to forward any of his letters directly after me, for that would be the time to hear good news when among them all Especially of an Expedition going on w^h. would Chear up all

¹ Joncaire.

their drooping Spirits. If the Governour [and] Governour Shirley intend to Come up Soon, it would be verry proper to Give me timely Notice of it in order to prepare the Indians all for a March

I hope the Assembly will not be so Unconscionable as to Expect I should take the Command of these 14 Companys without a Sallary. I leave that & y^e. Affair of the Regiment Intirely to his Excell^y., & You to do as you think proper again I Come back, for at present I assure you it is in a bad way As is the Watch of Albany. w^h. I would also Manage otherwise if that affair was Settled. I trust to your goodness, in Seeing Justice done me there ab^t. My Severall Acc^{ts}. & Disbursements. w^h. [] I shall have much occasion for Soon. Mr. Watts has orders to receive all S^d. Sums for me when ready. I am So much hurried that I must bid you Adieu, wishing you health & happiness I conclude Y^r. Sincere freind & Affect^{te}. Humble Serv^t.

To CAPTⁿ. CATHERWOOD
at New York

W^m. JOHNSON

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: April 9th 1748

Copy of a letter to
Captⁿ. Catherwood

RETURN OF COMPANY OF JOHN SLOSS
A. D. S.

A Return of my Company April y^e 12th. 1748.

Captain	Lieutenant	Serj ^{ts}	Drum	Effective	Sick	Killed or taken	Dead	Deserted	on Forlow	Totall
1	1	3	1	53	3	..	1	..	..	60

Sir Your most Humble Servant

To COLL: WILLIAM JOHNSON

JOHN SLOSS

A. L. S.

MR JOHNSON

 S^R

father Desires that you would Send []²] Dozen
more of the butens for [] Dozen and there
should be [] Coat please to Let me Know what
[] with the [Iron?] that is here. father [and
mother?] Desires to be Remembered to you with []
from your most humble servant

JAMES WILLSON

A CONFERENCE AT ONONDAGA³

April 24th. 1748.

At my first entering Onondaga I was received by all the Sachims & Warriours who stood in order with rested arms and fired a Volley, after which my Party returned the Compliment, then I was Conducted by some of the principal Sachems to my Quarters which was a large Indian House cleaned out, with new Matts laid on the Cabbins to lie in, They had another large house clean for to lodge the Indians whom I had with me and two Houses more for my Party all in very pretty neat Order.

Every Castle I passed through did the same Hoisted English Colours such as they had everywhere and beat their drums really beyond Expectation.

¹ In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:419-20, is a letter of April 22d from George Clinton to the Lords of Trade in which mention is made of a mission to the Indian country on which Johnson has been sent; p. 424-26, a letter of the same date, conveying the same intelligence, from Clinton to the Duke of Newcastle.

² Manuscript faded.

³ Copy of Johnson's journal in Council Minutes, 21:300.

In about an hour after I arrived they called all the Sachems of every Nation together and then sent for me to the meeting which was a very full one.

Ganughsadeagah an Onondaga Sachem Spoke.

Brother

We the Five Nations now assembled here All bid you heartily welcome to our Fire or Meeting Place, and are thankful the Lord who is above has spared your Life to come among us at this bloody time.

Gave three Hands of Wampum.

Brother

You sent a Belt of Wampum through all the Nations some time ago, desiring us all to stay home, and not one offer to stir or go to Canada upon any Account whatsoever, until we heard further from you, or should see you. Now Brother We the five Nations here together must tell you We think it very hard, being kept from Hunting now almost two years (Except a trifle about home) and that all for nothing as we can see no sign of your doing anything with your army as we expected. What shall we do now to live being in a miserable poor Condition, and if we have a trifle to lay out, Goods are so dear at Oswego that We can have nothing without paying three Times as much as We used to do, so that we are to be Pittyed. Notwithstanding all these difficulties We have at your desire stayed Home. Gave a Belt of Wampum.

Brother

You some time after sent another Message desiring us all to meet you here at Onondaga, and that you would be soon with us, we have accordingly agreed to your desire, and are here now assembled this long time, expecting of you, in a hungry condition, having nothing here to Eat and are far from home. Delivers more Wampum.

Brother

Being quite out of Patience and hungred, waiting your coming, we at length resolved to break up and go home when we received another Message from you that you were then at

Ganughsharagey¹ Castle within a days journey of this Place and desired we might by no means break up e're you come But desired we should buy what Hogs Corn &ca we could which we have done, and are all here ready to hear your News and return you thanks for Considering and supplying our Wants. So we finish for this day: Returns another Belt of Wampum.

My answer to the foregoing.

Brethren of the five Nations I return you all my most hearty thanks for your kind Welcome, and assure you I am very glad to see you all well here, at the old Meeting Place of our Forefathers whose Steps I have now traced here in order to keep the Road clean and open, according to the agreement made when We first joined in Brotherhood, which I hope you all remember.

Brethren

I must now tell you I am come here by your Brother the Governour's Orders, to speak to you and tell you his News, But as I am a little fatigued after my Journey Cannot speak to you this day Wherefore desire to meet you all here tomorrow Morning When I shall tell you my Message as also your Brothers News So hope you may be easy in your Minds and Content yourselves so long And I will this Night provide a Feast for your Sachems and another for the Warriours & dancers who I hope will be merry which is my greatest pleasure to make & see them so. Finished for this day. Wampum given by me.

April 25: 1748.

My Speech

Brethren of the five Nations I have made what Dispatch I could to meet you here, but the danger of travelling these roads now is so great that I did not think it safe to come without a Guard, Which together with the Battoes with Presents Stores &ca. has delayed me longer than I expected. I am very sorry for it upon your Account But now I shall make Amends by making what dispatch I can.

Brethren of the five Nations I will begin upon a thing of a

¹Canaseraga.

long standing, our first Brotherhood. My Reason for it is, I think there are several among you who seem to forget it; It may seem strange to you how I a Foreigner should know this, But I tell you I found out some of the old Writings of our Forefathers which was thought to have been lost and in this old valuable Record I find, that our first Friendship Commenced at the Arrival of the first great Canoe or Vessel at Albany, at which you were much surprized but finding what it contained pleased you so much, being Things for your Purpose, as our People convinced you of by shewing you the use of them, that you all Resolved to take the greatest care of that Vessel that nothing should hurt her Whereupon it was agreed to tie her fast with a great Rope to one of the largest Nut Trees on the Bank of the River But on further Consideration in a fuller meeting it was thought safest Fearing the Wind should blow down that Tree to make a long Rope and tie her fast at Onondaga which was accordingly done and the Rope put under your feet That if anything hurt or touched said Vessel by the shaking of the Rope you might know it, and then agreed to rise all as one and see what the Matter was and whoever hurt the Vessel was to suffer. After this was agreed on and done you made an offer to the Governour to enter into a Band of Friendship with him and his People which he was so pleased at that he told you he would find a strong Silver Chain which would never break slip or Rust to bind you and him forever in Brotherhood together and that your Warriours and Ours should be as one Heart, one Head, one Blood &c. and that what happened to the one happened to the other After this firm agreement was made our Forefathers finding it was good and foreseeing the many Advantages both sides would reap of it, Ordered that if ever that Silver Chain should turn the least Rusty, offer to slip or break, that it should be immediately brightened up again, and not let it slip or break on any account for then you and we were both dead. Brethren these are the words of our Wise Forefathers which some among you know very well to be so. Now Brethren understanding or hearing that

the French our and your Common Enemy were endeavouring to blindfold you and get you to slip your hands out of that Chain, which as our Forefathers said would certainly be our destruction, I now out of a tender regard for your Safety and Welfare as well as Ours, conjure you not to listen any more to the deceitful French who aim at nothing more than to destroy you all if in their power; but stick fast to the Old Agreement which you will find the best. A large Belt of Wampum.

Brethren of the five Nations in the next place I must tell you I am sent here by Order of your Brother the Governour as also the Governour of Boston to stop your going to Canada, they having heard (to their great concern) that you were determined soon to go that way again which is quite contrary to your Engagements and Contrary to the Custom of all Nations in the World in Time of War. Bretheren you take wrong the first Message I sent you with a Belt of Wampum, by imagining I meant to stop up all your Roads, for I only meant that Road leading to Canada You may remember your Brother the Governour, and I ever since the War desired and pressed you all to use your Interest every other way where you had or could make any Now I must tell you and assure you that he and I are of the same Mind still and desire you by this Belt of Wampum to use your Interest everywhere you can But by no means whatsoever offer to go to Canada. A Belt.

Brethren I am to assure you that if you stay home from Canada, That your Brothers the Governour of York &ca. will endeavor as soon as possible to get back your Flesh and Blood from Canada, which you say is the only thing induces you to go. This they would have tryed before now for, but that you went down last year, when they imagined you might get them but finding that would not do, I desire you now by this Belt of Wampum not to try any more but leave it entirely to your Brother &ca. who will use their Endeavours and are most likely to succeed. A Belt.

Bretheren of the five Nations You all came to me last Spring

with several Belts of Wampum, desiring Liberty to go to Canada, and take the last Tryal to fetch your Flesh & Blood (the Caghna-wagees) from there, which was agreed to at your earnest Request, & promise of returning back again in a Month But instead of that you staid there the whole summer and did not bring one of your Flesh & Blood along with you, which makes me think that, that was not your Business there, only to talk with our Enemy the Governour of Canada, which is quite Wrong. You at the same time begged earnestly that I would keep all the Warriours of the five Nations at home (altho then ready to go) until you returned which I expecting would be about a Month agreed to fearing as you told me That their going to War while you were there would overset what you went about and might be the occasion of all your Deaths in case they had Committed any Hostilities in the French Country while you were there now Brethren I am sorry I've Reason to tell you that I think your going to Canada last year, has been the occasion of our loosing several of Our people whose Scalps I dont doubt you have seen brought in there in Triumph while our Hands were tyed here by you which was a hard case and should you now talk or think of going that way again what must the Consequence be Nothing surer than death and an everlasting Scandal forever Wherefore Brethren I most earnestly desire you all by this Belt of Wampum not to listen any more to the deceitful French who have ever been your Enemy nor offer to look that way now. A Belt.

Brethren of the five Nations. I desire you to open your Ears and mind what I say to you As I have in the beginning reminded you of the old Agreement made by our noble Forefathers which was that we were and should ever remain as one Flesh, One Blood, one Heart, One Head &ca. and that what happened to the One happened to the other Now Brethren you see we have got the Frenchman's Ax sticking fast in our Heads Day after Day, and the five Nations also, Some of the most Principal you see were murdered the other day in their own Fields by the

French and Cachnewagees. You the five Nations have not hurt the Cachnewagees as yet tho' in your Power often to do it; So that it appears plainly by their using the five Nations in such a barbarous unprecedented Manner that they aim at nothing else but to quarrel with and destroy you which has ever been their View as you all by Sorrowful Experience have formerly seen and felt when they used to destroy your Castles and sacrificed such Numbers of your brave Predecessors that there lies large Heaps of their Bones ever since scattered over the whole Country. That alone any Man would think was sufficient to stir up an Everlasting Resentment in you against such a set of barbarous People if there remained the least Spark of that great Spirit in you which your brave Ancestors were noted through the World for.

Wherefore Brethren as you may plainly see they mean to sacrifice You as well as us if they could; I now desire you if there remains the least spark of that noble spirit in you which your brave Ancestors were noted to have through the World that you may now follow your brother's desire and use the Ax against them which you have so long in your Hands. A very large Belt.

Brethren of the five Nations I have one thing to desire of you which as Brothers I expect you will be sincere and tell me: your going to Canada last year and desire of going there now makes me think you cannot be sincere or hearty in your Brothers Cause, for it is impossible to be true to both Wherefore I desire you to drop the one intirely and stand by your own Brethren, otherwise I insist upon your declaring your Sentiments That I may when I return give an Account of it to your Brother and likewise to your Father the King. A Belt.

Brethren of the five Nations as I have desired and expect you will all Mind your Brother the Governour's News This is to assure you if you do That the King your Father has sent orders to the Governour to take care of your Castles and Familys while your Men are out at War And has ordered me to look out proper places to erect Forts for your Safety which I have done since I

came up here and will immediately set about building them provided you all agree to it, and come together, I have also one thing further to tell you Brethren That the King your Father has sent you a parcel of Goods for the use of your Families as a Token of his Love to all those who are Hearty in his Cause and mind this News I expect you will soon see and Receive 'em from your Brother the Governour at Albany where I desire you may be all ready to come and meet him when called upon. A Belt.

April 26th 1748

The five Nations Answer

Brother We are very thankful to you for reminding us of the old Agreement made by our Forefathers and are overjoyed to hear that you have found it out, and hope you will take care not to let it be lost again, for we are sensible that keeping up to them Rules laid down to us thereby is the only way to enable us & You to withstand our Enemies and preserve our Lives wherefore you may depend upon it That all the arts or Cunning Ways of the French which its true they use a great deal of shall never get us to drop our Friendship to you our Brethren. A large Belt.

Brother As you have now stopped the Road to Canada and desire us by no means whatsoever to go that way We the five Nations now assembled here Cant help telling you That we think it very hard and cruel to be hindred from Fetching our own Flesh and Blood from thence who lye rotting and dying in Irons when We are offered them only to go for them. Had you got them from thence as you have your own People We should not think of going to Canada as Friends but in another Manner, However upon your promise of redeeming them soon We all agree to your desire and promise you we will not go to Canada nor look that way before you make a Tryal for the redemption of our People And as you say you have so many French prisoners We think you may easily do it if you have a Love for us. There is nothing in the World would give us all a greater Pleasure than to have our people from thence Wherefore beg earnestly

Brother you will make haste and We assure you by this Belt of Wampum that we shall not go to Canada. A Belt.

Brother What you say is Right about our going down to you last Spring for Liberty to go to Canada to take the last Tryal for our Flesh and Blood the Caghnawagees. We assure you when we went away we had no other View and thought to return again immediately but as we were at Mont Real the News of the five Nations killing and taking several French just come there which we did not expect upon that We were all ordered to Quebec where they were going to put all in Goal however they did not but kept us there as prisoners 92 Days and so come away at last with only two of Our prisoners who were in Irons The Governour telling us that if we come or sent this Spring for the rest he would let them go provided the five Nations Committed no Hostilities in that Time, If they did the least Harm He assured us that he would then immediately put all the Prisoners to Death Now Brother as to your Hands being tyed by us It is true we begged of you that the Warriors of the five Nations might not go a Fighting to Canada until we returned But only to scour about the Woods near Home, which we thought best not imagining at the same Time That there would be so much Mischief done as there was, Expecting when we got there to prevail with the Caghnawagees to be easy at least if we could not get them along with us Which we find we could not being too much under the Directions of the French. Now Brother as we have told you the affair we hope you will not blame us as you have done But be assured that our Resolution is to live and die by you. A Belt.

Brother We listen to you with open Ears and mind what you say you may depend upon it And we hope you will not make a doubt of it that our firm Resolution is to keep up in every Step to the Rules laid by our Forefathers And we have your Ax so long in Hand we assure you that we have been ever since we first took it up always ready to make use of it in Conjunction with you and will ever Continue so. A Belt.

Brother As you desired us to open our Minds and tell you our Resolution, We now tell you in Answer to that Our firm Resolution is to stand by you as Brothers for ever and to make use of the Ax we have in our Hands whenever it is thought requisite But brother we were in hopes to have used it before now to some Purpose As you told us two years ago that you were then ready to march with your Army against Canada but instead of an Army you only sent out small Parties several of whom were by that means cut to pieces. Had you gone on with your Army and Ships as you told us you would and assisted us properly to get over the Foreign Indians to our Interest Who offered their Services, then we should have been able with the loss of a few Men to have drove the French and his Allies into the Great Lakes and drown them. But as you have not done that which we are sorry for we tell you now Brother that according to your desire we used what Interest we could that way and have gained a Considerable Number of the Foreign Indians who were ready to join you & us But as there is no Sign of an Army now Nor the Encouragement given to them which they expected We cannot pretend now to say what they will do. A Belt.

Brother As you have now taken a View of some of our Castles and told us the Governour Our Brother ordered you to Fortify them provided we all agreed to it and Come together We return him and you many thanks for your Care of us and shall as soon as possible move & come together and then we will acquaint you of it and expect you will then fulfil your promise. We also return you many Thanks for the Presents brought us Now which saved us a great deal of Trouble of going down so far and fetching them which would fall hard upon several of our old People. We also assure you we will be ready to go and meet our Brother the Governour when he calls us. A Belt.

Brethren of the five Nations I now return you all my hearty thanks for your ready and agreeable compliance to all my desires which I hope will tend much to your Advantage as well as Ours for by such a good agreement between us We shall the better be

able to preserve Our Lives and destroy our Enemies. Brethren if what you now promise me this day comes from the Bottom of your Hearts, as I expect it does then I shall return to your Brother the Governour with a chearful Heart and tell him you are still sincere and true to your engagement and I dare assure you all that you will ever find him so to you in every respect.

A Belt.

JOHN RUTHERFURD TO [WALTER?] BUTLER

A. L. S.

New York 29th Aprile 1748

TO CAPTAIN BUTLER

SIR:

When I returned here I found there was nothing to be expected against Canada so thought it best to take the opportunity of The Oswego to make a short trip to London to settle some of my private affairs. As I talked over matters with you at Albany when I expected to have been sent elsewhere I need add very little here but to desire you to add the three Men to the duty Roll as we agreed & one for Capt Cleland as Lt, & another as Agitant as I find The Governour intends he should do that duty at Albany, I must beg the favour you would assist Capt Cleland & show him any Civilities in your power, as I'm sure you'll be very fond both of his Company & Mrs Clelands. I hope you'll find a way not to allow me to be at more expence in the main than the other Captains & endeavour if any how possible to keep the Company full & charge the expences of recruiting in the pay Roll which after next pay day which is the sixth, you must peruse & sign befor Serjt Morris carries it to the Mayor beginning the 6th of June & adding the five as above. I shall see you at Albany befor the River freezes if I'm not very unlucky in passages so wishing you & Your Family all health & happyness I am Sir

Your most obed^t humble servant

JOHN RUTHERFURD

P. S. I have wrote Serjt Morris about searching Robert Miller's Wife who Carryed off some things from this that was stollen from my Wife by her Maid Janet Smith, so pray see that he searches them carefully & cause keep a strict eye upon them for I suspect he may attempt to desert. The best way to secure him would be to take hold of him when in some scrape & get his money in keeping

INDORSED: Cap^t.: Rutherfurds Letter 174[8?]

COMMISSION FROM GEORGE CLINTON TO JOHNSON AS COLONEL
D. S.

May 1, 1748

By his Excellency

The Honorable George Clinton,

Captain General and Governor in Chief of the Province of New-York, and Territories thereon depending in America, Vice-Admiral of the same, and ¹of the White Squadron of His Majesty's Fleet.

To William Johnson Esqr

Reposing especial Trust and Confidence, as well in the Care, Diligence and Circumspection, as in the Loyalty, Courage and Readiness of you, to do his Majesty good and faithful Service; Have nominated, constituted and appointed, and I do, by Virtue of the Powers and Authorities to me given by his Majesty, under the Broad Seal of Great Britain, hereby nominate, constitute and appoint you the said William Johnson, Colonel of The ¹Regiment² of Militia Foot, For the City and County of Albany in The room of Colonel Philip Schuyler You are therefore

¹ Space left in original to be filled in.

² June 28, 1748 Governor Clinton in his message to the General Assembly wrote: "On the 18th of February last, I appointed William Johnson, Esq; Colonel of the Levies. . . ." See *Journal of the Legislative Council of New York* (Albany, 1861), p. 1018.

to take the said Regiment into your Charge and Care, as Colonel thereof, and duly to exercise both the Officers and Soldiers of that ¹in Arms. And as they are hereby commanded to obey you as their Colonel so are you likewise to observe and follow such Orders and Directions, from time to time, as you shall receive from me or any other your Superior Officers, according to the Rules and Discipline of War, in Pursuance of the Trust reposed in you; and for so doing this shall be your Commission.

GIVEN under my Hand and Seal at Arms, at Fort-George, in New-York, the First Day of May in the twenty first Year of his Majesty's Reign, Annoq; Domini One Thousand Seven Hundred and Forty Eight.

G CLINTON

By his Excellency's Command.

Jn^o Catherwood, <Secre>tary

ISRAEL WILLIAMS² TO JOHN H. LYDIUS³

<Hatf^d May 4th 1748

S^R.

Last> Sunday arive'd at Hatfield <One — Blake out of> Captivity and desired me to Inform you, <That the following> Persons, taken from your parts Were at Canada <in the hands of> the French when he Came from thence, y^e. middle of y^e. <last month:> Antony Vanscoak, John Abeal, W^m. Goff, Chr. M^c.Grau, Jacob <Vosburg,> John Springsteen, John Thompson, Cor^s. Sprung, Peter Banfil, these at Quebeck. Peter Fosburg one Lanard his Mother three Brothers, and a Little Boy of his Neighbours. A Young man taken at Saragtoge. these att Montreal. These Letter desir'd him as soon as possible to send

¹ Space left in original to be filled in.

² Major Israel Williams, of Hatfield, was commissary of the forces stationed for the defense of western Massachusetts, Francis Parkman, *A Half-Century of Conflict*, 2:232.

³ Copy inclosed in letter, Lydius to Johnson, 1748, May 8, q. v.

word, that the French & Indians were preparing an Expedition against Coll^l. Johns & the Mohawks & Settlements Near him of which they had Good Information.

The afores^d. Prisoners Expect soon to be sent away in a Flag of Truce but the Poor Indians are Presoners in Chains and Like to be so for what I know, wish some provision was made for their Enlargement. Mr. Hawks our Ambassador, also tells me the Indians he understood the Seneca's had Lately sent twelve Belts to the French, Nine as long as a Man three half so Long and that the French, had sent to y^e. Six Nations five hundred Crowns & other things, a Valuable Present to them to Engage them in their Interest. I wish we may'nt lose 'em.

Should be Glad to hear Something favourable from the Indians' Last Meeting at Onondage,— But fear our Conduct has Discourag'd them.

I am Sr In hast Y^r Huml Ser^t

IS^R. WILLIAMS

MAJ^{OR}. LYDIUS

FROM JOHN H. LYDIUS

A. L. S.

Albany, May 8th 1748

COL^{LL} JOHNSON

S^R

on the other Side is Coppy of two Letters¹ I Receved from New Englend. I Conseaved the Acount theirin of such wate that I Emedately aplyed for a Garde to Bring them Safe up soo that You may be on Your Garde to Give them a warm Reception I Long to hear what success you met with in Onondage and of the Other Nations.

I Shall send the Oreginnell of the Otherside tow Coppies to morrow to New York to Governour Clinton that he may Use His Causion to Provent their Dissins.

¹ Stoddard to Lydius, [May?], 1748, and Williams to Lydius, May 4, 1748, q. v.

Wee have Nothing New hear Neider is their a Likelihood
of an Expedition Wee are all well. I Long to hear the same
from your honour in Hast

I Remain yours to Command

JOHN H: LYDIUS

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

A letter from George Clinton, of May 9, 1748, following Lydius's
in the Johnson Calendar, has been destroyed. It directed Johnson to
send out fifty scouts.

JOHN STODDARD TO JOHN H. LYDIUS¹

[May ? 1748]

S^R

<Last night> M^r Hawks returned hither, having brout only
<two> Prisoners, his Nephew that he went for being one of
them. <he> saith the Gov^{nr}. told him he would send the others
to Lewisburgh as soon as the season would allow of it but I
Cannot tell whither he ment to Send those only that were taken
from this; or from all the Governments. I was in hope that he
would have brought the Prisoners that Belong to the Six Nations,
for before Hawks went from hence, I wrote a Very pressing
Letter to Gov^{nr}. Shirley to use his Best Endeavours to Obtain
the freedom of those People, and Concluded that he had
Written to the Gover^{nr} of Canada for that purpose but his Letter
Came hither sealed and he Did not Inform me what he had
written.

Hawks tells me that three of the Indians Prisoners are Dead
— I Receved a Letter from Cap^t Van Schaick a Copy of which
I purpose to Inclose. with several Other Letters from your
Country Prisoners to their friends at Albany I am S^r

Your Very Humble Serv^t

JOHN STODDARD

¹ Copy inclosed in letter, Lydius to Johnson, 1748, May 8, q. v.

TO GEORGE CLINTON

In *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:619-21, is an extract from a letter of May 14th from Johnson to George Clinton on alarm prevailing in the Mohawk country, compensation for scouts, the Indians' discontent and the need of legislation for their protection from traders.

FROM JOHN H. LYDIUS

A. L. S.

*Albany May 16 1748*COR^{LL} JOHNSON

I Receved Your from Schoneg^{td} wherein You Desire to have Tow Hox^d. Rum sent up which I Dow by the sam opertunity I had them att Pieter Van Ales the Contents are
109
113 Gallons his Wif Did not know the Price he is Gon Down

ther is nothing New by Kilian Renselar hoe Came Last Nite: the Acont from Kinderhook of one men killed and One Taken we had in town before You Left it Prouefs too True thay are as I heard of Cap^t. Woolkos Men

Pray be Carefull about Your Place the Gard or scout forward will You wass in Town are Returned Jesterday thay Could Not [Pass?] y^e. sprouts¹ thay say the Water being too hey

I Remane Yours to Command

JOHN H: LYDIUS

ADDRESSED: To Corl^{lll} Will^m. Johnson Esq^t.
att Mount Johnson

FROM JAMES J. ROSS

A. L. S.

New York 6 June 1748

[SIR:]

We have that good News here that you have been almost at [Swege?] treating with the Indians, and that you have had

¹ The four branches of the Mohawk river below Cohoes falls.

very good Success Yesterday came in here the Privater
Catrine commanded by Captain Burgess, who was Out but five
weeks and brought with him a French Privater with a Hundred
and Sixty Men and three other Fine prizes Loaden'd with Sugar
Cotton &c. with about One Hundred Sailors.

I got you the best Saddle Horse, I could find, which I make a
present to you of which I hope will be acceptable. I wrote to
you in my former Letter, about haveing him Shod, if the fore
Shoes be well turnd in theres no Danger of his cuting himself

I have got my House which I bought here in a very good
Repair with a very convenient Cellar and Store, and as I live near
Quincy's¹ Market where the Albany Sloops Lands if you have
any thing to doe here, In relation to your Flower Bever or any
other thing you Send, I shall doe you all the Service possibly ly's
in my power if directed to me, my Wife Joines in our Respects
to you and all friends there. I am S^r

Your most Humble Serv^t.

JAMES J ROSS

ADDRESSED: To Collonell William Johnston
at M^r Johnston in the
County of Albany

TO JOHN VISSCHER

A. Df. S.

Albany June the 11th 1748

CAPT^N. VISGHER

SIR

I rec^d. yours last Night, and am Verry Sorry to hear of Davids
Behaviour to Your Men, When he was here, he promised me
they should have the Use of his house &ca, and, am Surprised
now that he Should behave So, without Some of [y]^r People
have provoked him to it. However, as Soon as I go Home, I

¹ Probably a wrong spelling for Coenties.

shall go to Conajoharee, and hope to make Every thing Easy. Untill When I Desire you Will do what You Can, to live easy, and Peaceable wth. the Indians. tell Mr. Fry I am Surprised he does not Stop the people from Selling Liquor to the Indians, which is the only thing that Spoils the Indians.

I am In Much Haste St.

Y^r. Verry Humble Serv^t.

W^m. JOHNSON

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

A. L. S.

New York <5th July 1748>

SIR

I have just this moment rec^d <yours of y^e 1st Ins^t> which I have but time to acknowledge by Leu^t <Cleaveland.> I send you ye inclosed piece of News which I believe will <Startell you> as it does every body Else tho I think if y^e Parliment had agreed to y^e Preliminaries, we must had orders before this, Upon this News I recd a letter from Goven^r. Shirley last Saterday to desire I would pospone my meeting y^e Indians 8 or 10 days upon y^t I have sent an Express to show y^e difficulty I shall meet in Complying besides y^e danger of making them Angry if I dont meet them at or ab^t y^e time appointed, Therefore I was obliged to sett out, but woud defer speaking to them till the 20th Ins^t in hopes of his being at Albany by y^t time, I sett out a Thursday, & expect an Answer to my express at y^e Manner of Livingston this day Sennight. having given him positive Orders to be there in the morning. & wrote to Mr Shirley to dispatch him for y^t end.

As to Castor Hatts I shall buy them & shall bring up some Barrells of Pork, but as to Beef we must have y^t Fresh some way or other, I could have wished you had bought it of y^e Boston Commission^r when I first writt to you for it

<One reason Goven^r. Shirley> gives for postponing y^e Confer<ence is y^t we may expect> some directions from home

in regard to y^e Indians <& what it would be proper> to say to them on this occasion. Adieu in <Great Haist>

Yours most sincerely

To COLL^o JOHNSON

G CLINTON

FROM ALBERT VAN SLYCK

A. L. S.

<Schonactenday July 21 1748>

COLL JOHNSON

I Cant but must acquaint you to my <great grief> Concerning this Last Cruall and most Barbarous <Slauter> wee had by the Enemy

Daniall Toll Left the Company att Malewyck to fetch <horses> from that Company and Shortly after they heard Severall guns fired and then my Brother adrian Sent his negro to Schonactenday to aq^t. the people thereof — also Desired to the people to go to the House of abraham Degroft where he would meat them — firstly the New England Leut^t with Some of his men & 5 or 6 of our young Lead and my Br. Danial Van antwerpen went there to See if they Could See or find Daniall Toll also Aukas Van Slyck was there with some men and the New England with his Company went further and aukas stayed by the House, then my Brother adrian Came to aukaskes as'd Dont you Hear ¹ting Go for gods Say[k] along then my Brother with ¹men went allong and Aukas Saffely followed him my Brother mett the Enemy only with 5 of² an told them to ¹and fight Expecting aukas with his Com-

pany Every minite and when Aukas Came up he Look about and had no men he had only Some of our People and the Rest of the New Levys all Left him, So that Aukas was obliged to Run & my brother was only 3 of em and So Losst their Lives.

Wee after hear In Scho^{dy} that they were In Battle. wee Jacob glen & Self and Severall more went to assist them but as Soon

¹ Manuscript torn.

² Necessary words evidently omitted by writer.

as they heard our Coming they all Left the place as Doth appear for they where all Stripped Except my Brother Adrian. Wee where to Close on their heles made them not Strip Adrian. It grieved me I was no Comander when wee went for garret Van antwerpen would Suffer no more men to quit out of the place or Else I think wee would have overuned them & Concured and over Runded em for the Day was but $\frac{1}{2}$ Spent.

So I Conclude and am your Sorrofull and Revengfull friend on those Bararous Eneys and am att all Times on your Comand.

ALBERT V: SLYCK

I Need not to mention of the Number of Dead & prisoners for I Suppose you have an acc^t thereof.

ADDRESSED: To Col^l. William Johnson
att Albany

THE SIX NATIONS TO GOVERNOR CLINTON¹

[Albany] July 25th 1748

Brother according to your desire that we <should> not listen to the French's invitations when we return to our Homes nor listen to any thing thy may say to us as we are sensible it is to our prejudice we assure you Brother it shall be as you desire & we will not listen to their Invitations nor go that way —

Brother agreeable likewise to your desire that there should no French too come among us for the future & that we should banish bring down Prisoner Jan Cour or suffer you to bring him down we the five Nations have all agreed to your request in that case & do acquaint you that Our Brother the Seneca in whose Castle he allways liv'd have likewise now positively

¹ Speech delivered at Albany council, held July 23–27.

² In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:441–52, is a report of Indian proceedings at Fort Frederick, Albany, July 23–27, in which Johnson took part. Governors Clinton and Shirley participated, and the Six Nations and their allies were represented.

declar'd that thy will never for the future suffer him among them —

Brother as we have your Ax this long time in our hands expecting to have made use of it jointly with your Army which we find you have forgot or laid aside we now tell you & assure you that Since we first took it in our hands we have according to our engagements kept our Warriours or young men from going abroad or hunting much to our loss, every day expecting a call from you & now further assure you that we shall keep the Ax still in our hands & hold our selves in readiness untill you call upon us to make use of it with you —

PETITION OF INDIANS TO GOVERNOR CLINTON (*Fragment*)¹

[July, 1748²]

o[]
 Brother We [] come down as a Guard to Coll Johnson
 []th out any Call from y^r Excellency but as we had hear[d]
 [] [] was at Albany here We are glad of the
 Opportunity [] Seeing, & speaking to you there was a time
 & not [long] [sin]ce that we were afraid to See our Brethren
 but [] fears are vanished by the Assurances you have given
 [] of y^r good meaning towards us You may remember
 [] fall you told us that you were at War with a [cru]al
 Enemy the French & that y^r People were [dai]ly murdered
 round about upon which we re[ne]wed the old Agreement
 between you & us insomuch [] at whatever good or evil hap-
 pend to One happens [to] the other. you offered us the Axe
 to use agst. y^r Enemies & told us you Expected an Army to
 destroy Canada; We took up the Ax & promis'd to use it agst

¹A petition presented evidently by the Lower Mohawks, whose castle was at Fort Hunter.

²The *Council Minutes* show that Governor Clinton was in Albany, with the purpose of attending an Indian meeting, as early as July 11, 1748, and was there as late as the 27th.

y^r Enemies in Conjunction with you. We have since [be]en desird by Co^{ll} Johnson to go out & annoy the [en]emy & get Prisoners to give us News of the Enemies [] tions while the Army y^r Excell^{cy}. told us of was getting [re]ady we have done this also to show our heartiness [] th the loss of some of our Principle Men, wherefore We hope [] will not make peace till we revenge this, but we [] afraid you are not in earnest as we dont see you [] [a]ny thing like what you proposed wth. y^r. Army [Bro]ther [we] are at Psent obligd to Acquaint y^r Excell^{cy} that [our] [Bre]theren [the] Conojoharies are much Exposed to the Enem[y] [] sire y^r. Assistance to fortifie them, & when [] [] t] is done, we cannot do without a number [] [m]en ready to jump out & join us in pursu[it] [] [] troying them, whenever they invade You or Us — [] will be the only means to Satisfie all our freinds & Allies [] [] farr distant Nations who are daily coming to our Interest that we are capable of defending ourselves [] [] d Ennoying ther Enemy In Some measure Untill the Army does go or is ready to Mo[ve]

GEORGE CLINTON TO THE INDIANS¹

[1748]

²] tis true I did not Expect to meet You [] the Occassion to Commend y^r. fidelity & [] join'd us against our Enemies: y^t. fears [] you may be for ever assured of my good inten[tion to] ward you. Do you but Proceed briskly as you have began you may Depend upon all the Encouragement & Protect[ion] in my Power; I am now come to put our People in as [g]ood order as I can either to Receive or march out against the Enemy, & as I propose never to Deny you assistance in Return I Expect You will be hearty to go out with us when

¹ In handwriting of Richard Shuckburgh.

² Several lines are missing.

call'd upon. I am much Concern'd at the loss of some of your Principle Men & hope by our mutuall assistance we shall get Satisfaction for them before we bury the Hatchet — Our Brethren the Conojoharies you say are Expos'd, I have given Orders to Coll. Johnson to fortifie their Castle as soon as Possible & shall order a sufficient Number of Men for their Defence which may Convince you & all our Friends & allies that I am in Earnest & you may be assured y^r. safety shall be my particular Study

Brethren My Resolution is stedfast & am now bringing my People to be ready to join y^{rs}. & Act as one Body and Expect you will use y^r. Endeavours to the same Effect among y^r. People of what ever Nation that we may live & Dye together — I most earnestly recommend to you not to listen to any Reports or any thing said to you beside what you hear from Coll. Johnson whom you may Depend shall repeat to you all the intelligence I can give him, in Return I Expect you will make report to him of every thing you hear as well what relates to y^r own affairs as concerning the Enemy & their Motions that he may inform me. Thus it is to live & Act like Brothers & Convince the World we are inseperable

TO JOHN LINDSAY

A. Df. S.

August 6th. 1748

CAPT^N. LINDSAY

SIR,

I am favoured with Severall of Yours, w^h. I must desire you will be so good to Excuse my not Answering Ere now, as I have been prodigiously tormented wth. the Indians, and other affairs on My Hands, that I declare to you, I could do nothing Untill that Hurry was a little over. I am now to acquaint you that I have Spoke to Mr. Clinton for Y^r. Continuance, w^h. he was pleased to Indulge me in. I also Enquired of him what would be done as to Sending a relief to Oswegoe, He answered that as

affairs were now Unsettled by reason of a Cessation of Arms, he could not resolve me Ere the Assembly mett. So that I am quite in the dark how to manage, as to buying Cattle &ca for Oswego. Mr. Collins has taken upon him to Examine into the Number of Men at Oswego, & the Quantity of provisions Sent there from time to time, in order as he Says to prevent the Country being cheated by the Officers or me. Wherefore Severall Examinations have been taken by him, & Coll^o. Morris¹ Who was lately in Albany for that purpose So that I find they are resolved to Allow no more than what is Sufficient for the Number of men there on y^e Spott. I wish you would please to Send me down an Acc^t of What provision Y^u rec^d. for this half year, by the first, & a receipt for the former. As Mr. Vanderheyden goes up, I defer writing y^u. any news, for he can tell You more than I can write. I am Sr. wth. kind Compliments to you M^{rs}. Lindsay &ca Sr.

Y^r Most Humble Serv^t.

W^m. JOHNSON

TO CAPTⁿ. LINDSAY

MEMORANDUM BY JOHNSON: to mention the Smiths Agreement to the governour, a present requisite wth. Each Smith & a bellows to the Senecas.

FROM JOHN CATHERWOOD

L. S.

New York 8th. August 1748

SIR

His Excellency ordered me to send by Cap^t. Dowe £556:14:6 for which he gave you his Note at Albany. out of this Money I have paid Mr. Williams £23:1:6 Agreeable to your desire so that Mr Dowe has in Charge for your use £533:13:0

¹ Lewis Morris, of Westchester county, chief justice of vice admiralty court, born in 1698. died in 1762.

and his Excellency desires that you'd transmit by the first Opportunity his note of hand.

The Boston Paper takes Notice that the King of Spain is come in to the Cessation of Arms so that I expect a General peace will soon be made Publick. I hope you have got rid of your Family and that you have been fully Sated with the joys of their Musick I have not time to say more but that I am with great truth D^r S^r

Your most Obedient Humble Servant

JN^o. CATHERWOOD

P. S. Gov^r Shirley is still here and presents his Compliments to You.

You have y^e Acco^t. of the Money on y^e. other side

An Account of the Mony sent by Cap^t. Dowe

N ^o . 13	one Bag	£52..14..6
15	D ^o	180
16	D ^o	160
20	D ^o	164

556..14..6

P^d Mr Williams 23.. 1..6

£533..13..0

ADDRESSED: To Collo. William Johnson
at Mount Johnson

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Captⁿ. Catherwoods
Letter August 8th. 1748

TO CLINTON

In *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:621-22, is an extract from a letter of August 10th from Johnson to George Clinton, suggesting a method for recruiting companies depleted by desertion.

FROM JOSEPH CLEMENT

A. L. S.

Out Condacktedie 16 agustus anno 1748

CORNEL WYLLEM JANSEN

ghi hat myn beloeft dat geen dranck in u fort sou verkoft worde in dat ghiet sou stoppe in fort willems in plaes van stoppe heb ghiet toegelate in u fort et welck niet vols u belofte was in daer ick u van gesprooke had van opmake van onse acte wier ick alle dage gedriegt van die u niet vreemt syn soo als ghi u wort niet kan houwe soo is et geen wonder dat ick myn belofte niet na in kom in van ons opmake heb ick geen wort gehort als driegemente

JOSEP CLEEMENT

ADDRESSED: aen den heer wyllem yansen

*Translation**Old Condacktedie 16¹ August anno 1748*

COLONEL WYLLEM JANSEN:

You had promised me that no drink would be sold in your fort and that you would put a stop to it in Fort Williams. Instead of stopping it, you have permitted it in your fort, which is not according to your promise. And as to the drawing up of our agreement, of which I spoke to you, I am threatened every day by persons who are no strangers to you. If you can not keep your word, it is no wonder that I do not keep my promise and about our agreement I have not heard a word but threats.

JOSEP CLEEMENT

ADDRESSED: To Mr Wyllem Yansen

¹ In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:438, in a letter of August 18th from Governors Clinton and Shirley to the Lords of Trade, is mention of Johnson's successful mission to the Indian country.

FROM THOMAS ARMSTRONG

A. L. S.

New York 31 August 1748

SIR

My last was 15th. inst. by Cap^t. Vanallen Who return'd heare last night & tells me he didn't See you this Journey & consequently no comands.

I take this opportunity to inclose the curr^t. news pappers, No ships from London wer heare Non would till the 15th. of July or after if so, wee cant reasonably Expect them yet, & that they defferd Sailling till then in order to Save 10 ₤ C^t. in all Insurrance, their reason was that hostilitys was then to cease in the channel & is very well for the merchants concern'd.

Since my last have had Some people cal'd for Beaver & deer skins P[ar]tic[u]larly Taylor the Hatter for some of the former, but the two old packs he wont touch, believe Some will Sell (I am Sure it will) at markt price which is all now at 10 or 10/6 Some very good, & Some [Coat?] is wanted, I have got Taylor not to buy any Quantity till I heare from you, possibly you may intend yours for London, if So the Antyloope a right good ship will be clear for thence airly in Nov^r.

Sir y^r most obed^t. Hble Ser^t.

THO ARMSTRONG

Ex. to London 70 ₤ C^t. & bills plenty

rum 4/ ₤ Gallon

Flower 20/ ₤ C^t.

ADDRESSED: To Colonel William Johnson
In Albany

FROM LEONARD LOCKMAN

A. L. S.

Boston 7^{br} 3 1748

SIR

I arrived but yesterday here my self when I was favoured with your Packet you may be assured that if I should not goe in the first vessel my self that I will take care that your letters shall be forwarded according to your direction & I will take care also your services done to the Crown shal not only be made known to Sir Peter Warren but to the Ministry to the extend of my Knolledge which is a good deal if I can be of any other servise to you here please to command me, hereby I send you a smal phial of drops which I recommend you to take every morning & evening from 20 to 25 drops att y^e time which if your Phisition does approove thereof should be taken in a decoction of the woods as Lignum vite & Sarsaparill or any other he may thinck of

[The] Instrument I was speaking to you of is in the hands of an old bruth that would not part with it so far tho' he does not want it, but he will let me have it next weeck to have one made by it as soon as it is done will send it to M^r. John Wats att York, I shal be obliged to you if you would put Capt: Magin in mind of the horses, & if you could send me a beaver coat & a fine bow with a bundle of smal arrows for I design to dres myself ones in a Indien dres if you can thinck of any littel things fit for that purpose I shal take as a greath favour the expence there of I will repay with a greath deal of pleasure & if I should be gone my wife will answer the same the sooner you could send this the better we dranck your health Yisterday at Governour Shirleys who I beleave will write to you by this opportunity I doe not hear of any news here wherefore conclude whith my best wishes for your health & succes & am Sir

Your most obedient Humble servant

LEONARD LOCKMAN

P. S. a pair of large Margessons
& snow shoes

TO JOHN B. VAN EPS

A. Df. S.

7^{br}. 6th. 1748M^r. JOHN B V EPS

SIR

This is to let you know that I have <orders> Now from the Governour to Releive You Both, & Send one Officer, & 30 Men in Your Room w^h I thought proper to Acquaint you of in time by an Express as I had no other Way. I Expected Orders to Send a Releif there this Month past. Whereupon I wrote to the governour that he would leave the Choice of an Officer to me, to w^h letter I Yesterday rec^d an answer with liberty to Send whom I please there. and as I have a particular regard for you. if you have a mind to Continue there, It shall be so: But you Must Send M^r. Bleaker down with the Men who are there, when the Releif Arrives W^h will be in ab^t a Months time, or thereabouts. if you want to Stay there Send me down word Imediately by the Express and whether any of the men there now will Stay any longer, and how many of them will Stay with you. pray let me know also how it is with the provisions. how long you think thy will last, & Captⁿ Lindsays. We Have not much news here at present but Everyr thing Still on Acc^t of the Cessation of Arms We Expect the London Ships in Every Day & I think for Certain thy will bring the Proclamation of peace with them. If so I think there will be a fine trade next Summer at Oswego w^h made me Send for a verry large Cargoe of goods to England, to be here Early in y^e Spring. I wrote to you in my last to buy me w^t ever Indian toys you Could gett w^h. I hope you have not forgot & Some Seneca Oyl. Bever, Skins, &ca are fallen <verry much. the Merchants dont care to give> above Eight Shillings for Bever. <four for leather. Bear Skins will be worth little or nothing as Soon as it is a> peace, w^h makes the Merchants now <fearfull of buying> them even at a moderate price — I shall <loose above £400,> by what Bever I have now by me, <besides all other> Skins. I should be

glad you would Send me <down> what Acc^t you have against me, by y^r Self, & then what wth. M^r Bleaker. So then I shall without fail Settle it, & Send up mine by the first oportunity, or Else with the Command. I am S^r

Y^r Assured freind & Welwisher.

W^m. JOHNSON

P S: pray let me know how the Flag of Truce got to Oswego & whether y^u heard Since from them. & who is gone wth them.

To Captⁿ John B: V Eps, att Oswegoe, ☿ Express

In y^r Receipts for the provisions y^u. must Sett down the Quantity of Every Sort, as Allowed by the Act of Assembly.

My kind Service to M^r Bleaker, & to all friends there, & particularly to y^r good Spouse who I hope is well, & likes Oswego.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Septbr. 6th. 1748
 Coppy of a letter to
 Captⁿ. John B V Eps

FROM BENJAMIN STODDERT

A. L. S.

Schonectady Sept^r. y^e. 7th. 1748

SIR

I have endeavour'd all I could to get Capt. Hogan Quartered at (or above) the flatts agreeable to your orders, but none of the farmers that own the Houses there will let him go into them, but say they want no Men there and threatn'd to sue Capt. Hogan or any one else that would go into their Houses without there consent. I therefore have order'd him and his Company on Duty in Albany till I have further orders from you, as I Judged it would not be adviseable to Quarter Men in any of the Houses, unless I could first procure the Consent of the Owner, as I apprehended it might occasion some confusion or other.

Capt Bratt with his Company Marched to Kenderhook agreeable to his orders,

I likewise hear that the Men that was sent to Clavarack are well Quarter'd and that Funda has promised they should regularly receive the Additional Pay of Six pence ¶ Day.

I flatter my self the badness of the Weather will in some Measure excuse my not makeing this Report sooner, and be assured that I shall with the greatest Chearfulness readily Comply with any further orders you Judge necessary relating to Hogans or any of the Companys Posted at Albany, And am with the greatest Esteem

Sir Your most Obed^t. Humble Serv^t.

B: STODDERT

P. S. Should be glad to know your pleasure the first Opportunity.

B: S:

ADDRESSED: To Col^o. William Johnson at
Mount Johnson ¶ favour of Mr. Frazier.

FROM ANGELIQUE VITRY

A French letter of September 9th from Angélique Vitry at Montreal, to Johnson, following this in the Johnson Calendar, was destroyed by fire.

TO JOHN CATHERWOOD

A. Df. S.

Albany 7^{br}. 16th. 1748

D^R. SIR

I this Ins^t. rec^d. y^{rs}. wth. the Warrant and Commis^{ns}. for the officers, but none for the Civil ones as I Expected, Which Should I now be disapointed in (after talking to the people about it) I Should not know how to look them ever in y^e face besides the Mayor¹ has often Sayed in Compy^s. here that he wished to be rid of his Commisⁿ., & Moreover Collins as a Lawyer will have

¹ October 1, 1748, Jacob Coenraedt Ten Eyck succeeded Dirck Ten Broeck as mayor of Albany.

the Same Influence over him, as he ever had. w^h. will Still leave Every thing in a bad way. I shall take Care to get you the fees of these last Commiss. Sent up, and as Soon as the Regiment is Settled, w^h. would be long ago but for want of two feild officers shal order the gentlemen Who Swear them to receive y^e. fees, and when all payed, Shall send it to you together. I have asked Glen Several times to Except of the Lieu^t. Col^o. Commission, but he desires to be excused, therefore I wish I knew w^t. to do therein, and in Albany. I am Much oblided to his Excell^y. for offering his Interest to make me one of the Council, but as it would by no means Answer for me, beg to be Excused. As His Excell^y Insists so much upon my Supplying Oswego further I shall do it, altho I am not prepared, Haveing laid Aside all thoughts of it. Both the Flags of Truce are by the way, and wth. in a Day, or two's Journey of Albany wth. 31 prisonners. not one Indⁿ. nor any of them taken wth. them would be Suffered to come, Nor any of them taken last at Schenectady. there are Some French Officers, & french Ind^{ns} comeing with 'em and design to go to York, I hear, wherfore I should be glad to know w^t. his Exc^y will Say to it. I am, D^r. Sir, Much Hurried So Conclude
y^r Assured friend, & Affectt, Humble Serv^t.

W^m. JOHNSON

TO CAP^t. CATHERWOOD

P. S. I send yⁿ y^r. Indⁿ. Dress and hope it may Answer y^r Ends, if any thing is wanting let me know it

INDORSED: Part of a Coppy [of a] letter to

C: Catherwood 7^{br}. 16, 1748

TO GEORGE CLINTON

L. S.

<Albany, 7^{br} 16th 1748>

May it please your Excelley

I have yesterday rec^d the Inclosed from <the two> Gentle- men who went with the 2 different Flags of Truce & expect them

every Hour; thy are Accompanied as you See by Seven Officers, Eighteen private Men & 4 French Indians In order as thy write to go to your Excellcy abt. Getting their Prisoners from the Indians, but I dont see thy had Occasion for so many, on that or any such Business. I should be glad to have your Excellcys Instructions how to Act in the Affair, & whether you will Suffer them down or not, there is not one of our Inds. suffered to Come nor any of the Christians who were taken wth. them w^h. is very hard, & will be the Means I reckon, of all the five Nations going down now to Canada to Endeavour to gett them. You have Inclosed a list of the prisoners Names who are now come, The Sooner I harde Yr Excellcys Orders the Better, not to keep them here long. I am wth. the Greatest Respect Imaginable

Yr. Excellcys. Most Oblidged, & Most obdt. Hum. Ser^t.

W^m. JOHNSON

P. S. I have yesterday spoke to Major Glen who desires to be Excused Serving as Coll^o longer Wherefore should be glad to know whether I may ¹ an other in his Room & Lyddius for Albany

The Name of the Com^t is vizt

Mons^r Franc^s Mari Merchant Deslig<neris>

The other 6 I do not know.

A Copsy of the names of the prisoners I left at Montreal in the ¹ and in Goal viz^t.

Isaac Truax²

John Phillips²

Ryer Wempell²

Benjamin Blackford

Joh^s S. Vrooman²

Peter Clinton

Albert J. Vedder²

Timothy Colel sorely wounded

Franck Connor²

Ruben Walker Lut³

Elijah Stansbury

Adam Moll

Edward Warren

¹ Word omitted in the manuscript.

² Taken at Schenectady July 18, 1748.

³ Probably the abbreviation for Lieutenant.

The Names of the prisoners

- | | | | |
|-----|---|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| < 1 | Capt ⁿ . Will ^m . | > Teage | } from England |
| 2 | Phillip Evens | | |
| 3 | Annatie Clock, | at Saraghtoga | |
| 4 | Annatie Van Allen | at Kinderhook | |
| 5 | Peter Van Allen | her Inst. ¹ | |
| 6 | Elizabeth Bloom | from d ^o | |
| 7 | Maria Scott | d ^o | |
| 8 | Jacob Vosbourgh | | } near Schotack |
| 9 | Andreas Huyck | | |
| 10 | Abraham Gardineer | | } from Schenectady |
| 11 | Harmanus Hagedoorn | | |
| 12 | Nichl ^s Viele | | |
| 13 | Margaret Folmer | from Kassio on the Mohawk River | |
| 14 | Deborah Springer | from Saraghtoga | |
| 15 | Elizab th Van Deurze | Kinderhook | |
| 16 | Thom ^s Taylor | | } all from New England |
| 17 | Tho ^s Crison | | |
| 18 | John Henry | | |
| 19 | Daniel Howe | | |
| 20 | Jonath ⁿ Lawrence | | |
| 21 | Joel Johnson | | |
| 22 | John Edgel | | |
| 23 | Ephri ^m . Powers | | |
| 24 | John Fitch | | |
| 25 | Cathrine Fitch | | |
| 26 | Susanna Fitch | | |
| 27 | Jn ^o Fitch | | |
| 28 | Paul Fitch | | |
| 29 | Susanna Fitch | | |
| 30 | Jacob Fitch | | |
| 31 | Will ^m . DeGraf | from Schenectady | |

In all 31 prisoners

INDORSED: 7^{br}. 16th 1748

¹ Probably intended for Inf^t, infant.

FROM BENJAMIN STODDERT¹

FROM BENJAMIN STODDERT

A. L. S.

Schonectady October ye. 2^d. 17<48>

SIR

I received yours of yesterdays date and shall comply with your request when the French Gentlemen arrive and shall Immediately acq^t you therewith.

The Commissioners has not received the orders for Supplying us with Provisions w^{ch}. makes me Apprehensive they have Miscarried by some means or other, but have wrote to Cap^t. Catherwood concerning it and desired he would have the orders sent up ^{at} the first opportunity,

The Officers at Albany are very uneasy and seem to be afraid they'll be tricked notwithstanding my telling them his Excellency had assured me that the Men & Officers should be paid till they were discharged and that the Speaker of the House of Assembly wth. the Advice of severall of the Members had given orders for a further Supply of Provisions w^{ch}. I was afraid had Miscarried but did not doubt but we should soon have another order and in the mean time desired they would get Provisions from the Commissioners on their own risque till orders could be had as I had done my self, but they did not seem Inclenable to do any such thing saying it was to great a Risque and If orders did not come by Tomorrow they seem'd to say as much as they would Discharge their Men and this morning could not get a Man from any of the Companys to mout Guard excepting my Own, but just before I came away I sent to the Officers and they Promised me would send these Men to the Guard.

I thought it my Duty to report this Immediately to you and am with the greatest Esteem Sir

Your most Obed^t Serv^t

B: STODDERT

P. S. I shall go down to Albany Tomorrow but shall wait the return of the Bearer to know if you have any Commands for me &c

B. S.

<To COLL^o. WILLIAM JOHNSON at Mount Johnson>¹Letter of September 30, 1748. See Appendix.

FROM BENJAMIN STODDERT

A. L. S.

Schonectady October ye. 3^d: 1748

SIR

Mr Frazier tells me you desired to know how long Provisions were order'd to be Issued to us, I yesterday wrote you the orders had Miscarried by some means or other, but his Excellency told me that the Assembly would Possitively set the 12th. Instant, and he should recommend it to them to have us continued till he had a Confirmation of a Peace and that he had seen the Speaker and Several of the Members & they were for having us continued, I likewise heard by several other hands that they had heard some of the Members say we would be continued all the Winter but what they'll resolve on when they meet I cant determine. Cap^t Cleland begs the favor of you to get him Two Cubb Skins to make furniture for a Saddle. Mr Frazier desires his Complim^{ts}. to you and Am Sir

Your most Obed^t Hble Ser^t

B. STODDERT

P. S. I shall dispatch an Express to you Immediately on the Arrival of the french Gent. tho' I believe his Excell^y w^d be Glad you were in Albany they come up.

His Excell^y is determin'd to put a Stop to all the Albany Letters w^{ch}. he Imagines will be given to the French for to go to Canada

<To COL^o WILLIAM JOHNSON at Mount Johnson>

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

A. L. S.

New York, 5th Octobr 1748

In my letter to you of ye 26th of last Month I informed you I had given orders to the Commission^{rs}. here to Send a Supply of Provisions to ye Troops posted in ye Fronteers under your

Comm^d. to Subsist them to y^e 21st Ins^t w^{ch}. (by y^e Answer I received from M^r Richards one of y^e Commission^{rs}.) I expected was fully comply'd with Especially as it was with advice of Council but to my great surprize by a letter I have from Captⁿ Stoddard y^t no provisions are gone up, which I conclude was designedly neglected by y^e Commission^{rs}. in order to Distriss the service & disband y^e Troops sooner then I thought it Necessary, and with a great deal of assurance declared y^t if even they was Served with an order from y^e Govern^r tho in Council they woud not obey it, what a low ebb is y^e Govern^r. & Council of New York drove to y^t their orders are refused for 3 Weeks provisions for a few Men for whey, because these Commission^{rs} can make but little profit by it <as> they are Sure there is an End, formerly the Govern^r. & Council had y^e disposal of every Shilling & did it all in Council by Warrant without consulting Assembly or any body & always was punctually paid, & yet I am apt to believe Some in Council is concernd underhand, as being against continuing of them any longer when it was proposed in Council, but voated for 3 weeks provisions. <I actually> dread y^e ill consequences of leav[ing troops ¹] <naked> & exposed to y^e views of the French officer ¹ on their return to Canada & before matters were ¹ between the Govern^r. of Canada² & me & I wish it may ¹ Some turn in our Indians when they find themselves <entirely> left open to y^e insults of y^e French without any prospect of assistance from us if attacked by them, I am now just agoing into Council & shall see what they say to all this, all y^t we have done in Council is to writte to y^e Commissarys to know if they will provide provisions & sent them y^e minute of Council upon y^e subject & in case nobody will provide them with provisions till such time as y^e assembly meets to do something in it either to reduce them or Continue, I have done all in my power & it must fall upon ye Commission^{rs} & their

¹ Manuscript torn.

² Roland-Michel Barrin, Marquis de La Galissonnière, governor of Canada, 1745-49.

agents Your Officers & people must think is hard as no doubt but it is, but I can do no more, but by y^e Chief justice I find y^t he thinks it hard they should be obliged to disband on acc^t of wanting pay & Provisions, And y^t he thought the Commission^{rs} here ought to have done it, but woud not offer any advice to remedy y^e evill.

We are come to a resolution not to give up one Canadian that is in possession of y^e Indians at present till those y^t are in Canada both Christians & Indians are deliverd up, but I engage so far to y^e Govern^r as y^e Season of y^e year is too far advanced now to get our [Prisoners?] from Canada at this time but in case he will send mine I will ¹ all y^e Canadians y^t are in possession of the ¹ are willing to return as you will see by my ¹ Speech to y^e Indians & for y^t purpose I must desire <of you> to Sollicit y^e getting these Canadians out of y^e hands <of y^e> Indians to be delivered to you for me, & to maintain them <till> such time as they are sent off

As y^e Commandant of this party is a very pretty Gentleman it greaves me much to think I cant send any of his people back with him as it might be of great service in recommending him to y^e Govern^r. But his letter is so haughty <&> indeed rather Insolent y^t I am obliged to Stick on punctoes & for his detaining our Christians Prison^{rs}. from us in time of peace is not right, but if he had sent one or two of y^e Indians back in y^e room of y^e five of his I sent, something might have been done, but now y^e poor Gentleman must go back as he came & thank his own Govern^r. indiscretion by putting things on a wrong footing

Mr Irwin comes up by Cap^t Dow a Saterdag in order to inlist some Men for Mr Shirleys Regim^t I must beg of you to use all your Interests with all y^e Capt^s to gett what Men they can for him in case they disband as between you & I his Regm^t stands or falls by is Good or evil luck.

¹ Manuscript torn.

I hope to dispatch these Gentlemen by Tuesday next, I am
Sir

Your faithfull friend & Servant

G CLINTON

I did design sending some Kings Officer on y^e Rank of this
but make our apolegy for it on acct of y^e Season

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Governor Clinton
letter 8^{br}. 5th¹ 1748

FROM JOHN H. LYDIUS

A. L. S.

Albany Octo^r. 25 1748

COLL^{ll}

Last nite Arived Pieter Van Alen hoe has brot 14 Hoxeds
Rum & one Barell of Eisters for You Alixander Van Eps has
taken up with him the Barell of Eisters and 2 Hoxeds of Rum
N^o 1:102, N^o. 9:107 Gallons the Other I shall put in the seller.
Pieter Expects to Be rady to Goo Down by Friday.

I have not Yet all the Accounts of the Charges Encur'd on the
Flag of Truce otherwise I should have inclosed them to you now
but shall have them, I hope to Day. Except the Horses the
French took with them which wee wont have Untill Tursday or
friday wen Nicolas Comes bak from the Lake; I Dont hear
of any thing wort your Notice my wife Gines in sarvise we
Conclude to be

Your to Command

JOHN H. LYDIUS

ADDRESSED: To Coll^{ll} Wm Johnson
att Mount Johnson
Rece^d. & forwarded by
sir y^{rs}. &^c
J Chew

¹In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:490-91, is a letter of October 19th from Lieutenant Desligneris to Governor Clinton in which is mention of Johnson.

TO SAMUEL AND WILLIAM BAKER

*A. Df. S.**Mount Johnson Octobr. 28th. 1748*

GENTLEMEN

Since my last to you Via Boston I rec^d the goods yⁿ. Sent me by the Grampus Cap^t. Long as also those Sent by Cap^t. Anderson. I hope you have ere now got my letters Safe and the Memorandum of goods Inclosed therin. w^h. I must desire you again to Send me £ first opertunity without Insurance As the Imediate Sale of them, depends intirely on my getting of them early in the Spring. I send you herwith the Certificates of four Different Officers, with power of Attorney to receive it for them, and when received you are to Credit my Acc^t. wth. the amount. I hope there will be no delay in the payment thereof as we Expect there is provision made for it ere now. Inclosed you have the Invoice of five Hogsh^d. of Bevers, Skins &ca. the Amount of w^h. together with My Certificate & these of the Officers, will I Expect Answer for this Cargoe now Sent for. pray be very Carefull in the choice of the goods you Send me from Hence forward, as the Carrying on a large trade Intirely depends upon My haveing good goods & well bought. I am gentlemen with great regard

Your Most Obed^t. Humble Serv^t.W^m JOHNSONTo Mess^{rs}.SAMUEL & W^m. BAKERMerch^{ts}. in London*New York Novbr. the 8th. 1748¹*GENTMⁿ.

Since my last writing the above have go[] a Certificate for my pay which amt^s. to £410 ..8.. [] I have made payable to you & When received plea[se] to Credit my acc^t.

¹ This is a draft written on the reverse side of the draft of the letter, Johnson to S. and W. Baker, October 28, 1748. q. v.

with it. [*The Governors Secretary M Catherwood goes in the next Vessel sails to London*] Inclosed I send y^u. 3 patterns of gimps or garterings of which I would have you Send me 100 P^s., besides them mentioned in the Memorandum, as they go of well here. I have Shipped My furs &ca on board the Antilope Captⁿ. Emery, as y^u may See by the Inclosed Bill of Lading and hope they may Come to a good Market, as they are good of their Kinds. I am Gentmⁿ.

Y^r. Most Humble Servant

W J:

LIST OF HUBERT MARSHALL'S MEN

D. S.

A List of Coll Marshalls men Indepthed to M^r Richard Arnold Marshall the 4 of November when they went on Cap^t Rosebooms Command to the Mohawks 1748

to Be paid att so much a mounth according to Contracts.

	Dept			Stopedges		
Jacob Tonkin.....	6	11	8	0	10	0
John Taffe.....	2	0	5	0	8	0
Samuel Snowden.....	0	13	8	0	5	0
William Collman.....	0	15	4	0	5	0
Charles Mc Swiney....	1	11	0	0	6	0
James Kelley.....	3	4	10	0	8	0
Nickolas Sherlock.....	0	11	8	0	5	0
Samuel Richardson.....	0	7	8	0	7	8
James Burwell.....	0	15	4	0	5	0
Larrance Creeley.....	0	0	0	No Days pay	0	—
John Davis.....	0	0	0	No Day pay	0	—
David Porter.....	0	0	0		0	—
Corporal Marshall.....	£	s	d			
D ^r for a Jackett						
to be paid to	1-0-0					
Cap ^t Rosboom }		16	11	7		

Eleven Days Pay Due to the following men

Jacob Tonkin.....	0	8	3	The above is a true Copy of the Notes Left here which I Expect You will Stop from the Men at as much a Month above mention'd. HUBERT MARSHALL
John Taffe.....	0	8	3	
Samuel Snowden.....	0	8	3	
William Collman.....	0	8	3	
Charles Mc Swinney....	0	8	3	
James Kelley.....	0	8	3	
Nickolas Sherlock.....	0	8	3	
Samuel Richardson.....	0	8	3	
James Burwell.....	0	8	3	
David Porter.....	0	8	3	
	4	2	6	

TO JOHN HENRY LYDIUS

*A. Df. S.**Mount Johnson Xbr. 7th. 1748*

SIR

I am favoured with both yours by Master Nicholaus, by whom I am heartily Sorry to hear of your loss, which I find is pritty Considerable, but I am in hopes you may find out the theif yet and the Money also. I have the pleasure of a Couple of letters from the French Gentlemen were here Who are all well, which no doubt they wrote you. One is from Monsieur Desligneris, Who writes me there is a freind of his one Monsr. Repentigny, Comeing this way, and hopes I will befreind him. As I find the gentleman is now at Your house, pray make my Compliments acceptable to him & tell him I hope to have y^e pleasure of Seeing him as Soon as the Weather will permitt & Assure him from me, there shall be nothing in my power wanting to Serve him, having two Motives for it the first as he is recommended by a gentleman Whom I have a great regard for, Monsieur Desligneris & the other as he is a gentleman himself.

I dont doubt but you will endeavour to make Every thing as agreeable to him as possible. I am heartily Sorry there is no Company there now again I go down without you can make up a



FORT JOHNSON

Small Sett of our own; & of the best. I am Sir With kind Compliments to You, M^{rs}. Lyddius, &^{ca} Sir

Y^r. Most Sincere friend & Humble Servant

W^m. JOHNSON

I shall do w^t. you desire by this Express. pray give the Express a charge of the Packquet, there being Severall letters inclosed, and when he returns please to take up all my letters Safe from him.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Coppy of a letter to Coll^o. Lyddius
Decbr. 7th. 1848

TO JOHN CATHERWOOD

A. Df. S.

M^t. Jo [h]nson December 30, 1748]

[DEAR SIR]

Your favour (By the [Post] a great deal of pleasure and am [] glad to hear of the familys Welfare. Whom I proposed when at York, to do my self the Honour of waiting upon this Winter; but hitherto we have not had the least Snow, and now I am busy prepareing all Materials to build me a good House next Spring. which must deprive me of that Happiness, as I am oblided to be present to forward the Work. So that I hope my Breach of Promise in that respect, (being Unavoidable) will be favourably looked upon & Excused. by His Excellency [Mama?] &^{ca}. When you acquaint them of the Circumstances. As you tell me Poor Tyrrel has at last changed his Condition. I heartily wish it may be for the best, and doubt not it will, as he had so great an Esteem for the Lady. Whom I belive must be verry deserving from the opinion I have of Tyrrels Taste. We have not the least news here worth your Notice. If Paddy is at York pray give my Service to him and please to tell him I should be glad of a few lines from him. the young Indian ladies the Albany Ladies here upon hearing he was

an Irishman, are ever Since quite out of Conceit with my Countrymen for thy say he is An out of the way Animal Wherefore I could wish he would improve a little before he comes again among so polite a Sett of Ladies. My Best respects to His Excellency & the rest of the family. I am Sr With great Esteem
Yr. Most Obed^t. Humble Serv^t.

W. JOHNSON

P. S: My Compliments to Captⁿ. Pevey, Morris, Cleland, Colehoon &ca

TO SAMUEL AND WILLIAM BAKER

A. Df. S.

Mount Johnson, X^{br}. 31st. 1748

MESS^{RS} SAMUEL & W^M BAKER

Since my last ☿ Cap^t Bryant, <& Amory> which I hope you have rec^d Safe, together with the Returns, nothing of any moment has Occurred So that this only Serves to desire the favour you would Send me these trifles mentioned In the Inclosed. and of a good Sort, as they are for a House which I am building for my self & that thy may the better know what Sort, & Size I shall give you the dimensions of the House, which is 60 foot long, by 32 Wide two Story High, all Stone. I Should be glad you would please to ask a Workman there, how Much lead would be Sufficient to Cover Such a House & what it would amount to with the freight here & also of Slate for Either of the two I propose Covering of it with. I am gentlemen with much Esteem,

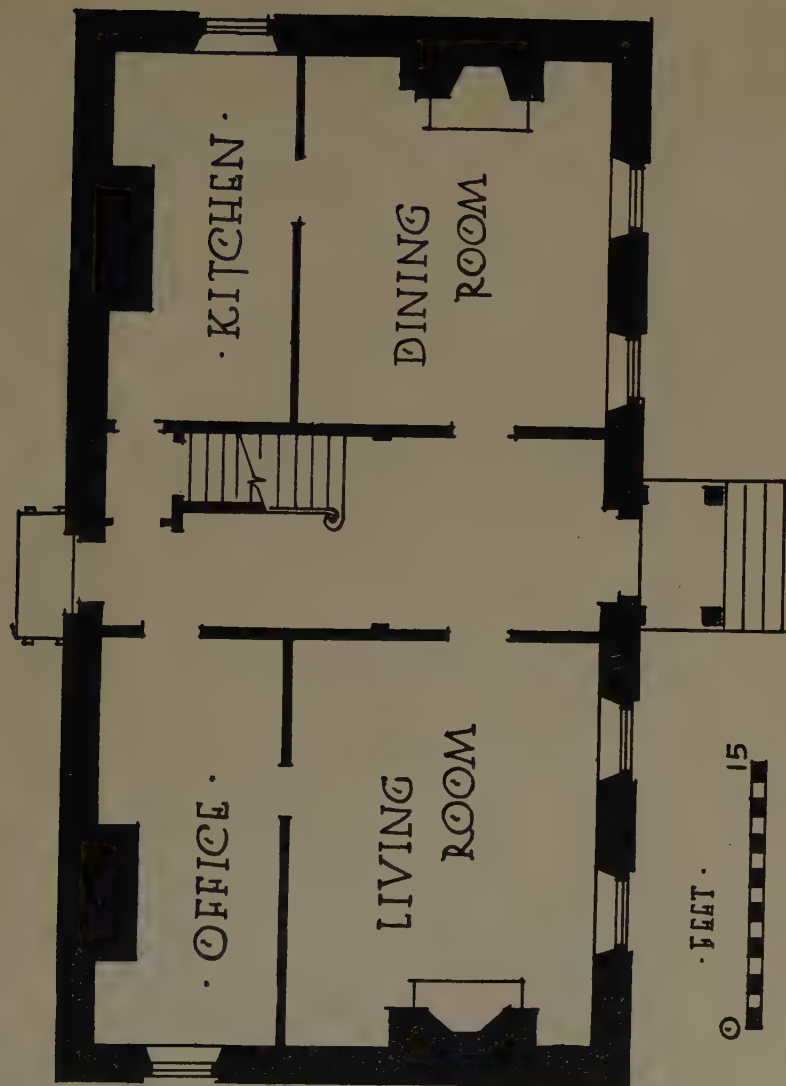
Your Most Obed^t Humble Servant

W^M. JOHNSON

TO MESS^{RS} SAMUEL & W^M. BAKER Merch^{ts} in London

1 large Beam for weighing with my name, & the Year upon it

1 large Strong Screw for packing Bever &ca with a good
Microscope



FIRST FLOOR PLAN OF FORT JOHNSON
(Courtesy of the *Architectural Forum*)

GEORGE CLINTON TO THE ONEIDA INDIANS¹[1748²]

Brethren of Onieda

I am informed the <French have> sent a message to You to let you know that they propose soon to come & build a church at the Oneida Lake, and that they will send a Number of their People to cover the Workmen

Bretheren

If you permit the French to do this we shall look upon it that you throw the Antient Cov^t chain out of your hands, and that by suffering the French to build so near to our settlements your Intentions are to bring them down upon our Country to destroy us — and You may depend that if the French offer to build any church or Fort at the Oneida Lake we shall think it necessary for our own preservation to oppose it by force, and that you will see me up there, when I will do my best to push our Enemies both French & Indians out of our Neighbourhood.

TO GEORGE CLINTON

A. Df. S.

[1748²]May it <please yr> Excell^y

On the receipt of yr Excell^y's first <letter> I went to the Mohawk Castle and Major Glen wth me, where we had All the Indians together, and using likewise all the Arguments we possibly Could to shew them that y^e French were Insignificant People to the English upon this Continent and how much it would be their Interest to keep their faith Inviolable with us, & that they must not listen nor be any way dismayed at any of those false Rumours, or Alarms daily spread among us by the French, it

¹ In handwriting of Banyar.

² Date conjectural.

being the only Artifice they have now left to make use of, (as in a short time they will be sensible of) being surrounded and hemmed in on Every side by the English, w^h. In a short time hoped thy would be Eye Witnesses of, they were all verry easy & well pleased upon our Assureing them of all this, but most of all upon y^r Excell^{ys} promiseing them Assistance of Men, w^h thy Most Earnestly entreat may be as soon as possible, they were daily carrying away their best things into the woods, Expecting their Castle, and all the Mohawk River Daily would be cutt of, Untill I beat them out of that Notion, by shewing them that I never had moved any of My Effects away, tho of as much value as ¶haps the whole River and that because I was sensible thy <dare not> make any such attempt knowing our Strength, <now> farr to Exceed theirs, all this was verry well taken and credited, Untill last night Aaron the Indian Arrived from Albany, who brought the news that One Company of the fighters I sent out Some time Ago, were Come back, and affirm that there is an Army Comeing from Crown Point, Consisting cheifly of Indians, w^h has now put them all in a verry great Surprise again, but I shall endeavour (all in my power) this day to Settle them much as possible but I assure y^r Excell^y the only best way to Ease their fears, is to send a good officer and a party of Men to Each of the two Castles next for a little time, and that is what thy beged I would Imediately acquaint y^r Excell^y of. I shall always esteem it as the Greatest pleasure to have it in my power of being any way serviceable to my Country and Assure Y^r Excell^y I have not for this long time past, nor shall not while requisite, spare any labour or reasonable Expence to gett the Indians heartily into our Interest w^h I may almost make bold to Assure Y^r Excell^y I've now compleated tho with a great deal of difficulty. I am wth. the greatest respect Y^r Excell^{cy}s Much Oblidged, & Most Humble Serv^t.

W. J.

<Assur>eing them of <Y^r Exc>ellys protection against their <Enemy> the French and acquainted them of <the

great> tenderness and regd. <Yr> Excellly is pleased <to ex>press for their <welfare> & Safety.¹

INDORSED: <Copy of a letter to Gov^r Clinton.>

FROM PETER FELINCK²

A. L. S.

[Schenectady, 1748]

WEL ED: HOOG ACHTBARE HEER
MYN HEER

Also ik een Stuck Lant in't Albanische regt gekogt hebbe de Aelplaets genaemt, En uyt Oorsaek deses genootsaeckt om myn Huys en Erff te verkopen synde gelegen naest Jan Coelon. het huys is groot 40 voet[en] en heeft 3 heertsted[en] te wet[en] 2 kamers boven van 24 en 20 voet breed en lang en onder een kelder-keuken van 26 voet lang en 24 voet breed en 2 kelders een somerkelder en daer onder een winter kelder daer het noyt in Vriest; Een Solder van 40 voet lang & 24 voet breed door-gaens, met een Vliering solder op welcke 2 solderinge wel eenige duysent schepels kan gestoort word[en]. Het Erf of tuyn is lang 200 $\frac{40}{60}$ à voet en aen de Straet 40 voet breed met een gang

¹ This paragraph is written in the margin of the above draft.

² Peter Felinck (Feeling) was a schoolmaster of Schenectady, where he was teaching as early as 1725.—Howell and Munsell, *History of the County of Schenectady, N. Y.*, p. 120. His house was on the north side of State street, about midway between Ferry and Church; he was married in 1724; and he was the father of Cornelis Feeling (see Deposition of Cornelig Feeling, October 13, 1756).—Sanders, *Early History of Schenectady*, p. 160, and Pearson, *First Settlers of Schenectady*, p. 67. On June 16, 1724, the petition of Peter Felinck for naturalization was presented to the Assembly, and July 24th a naturalization act was passed for the benefit of Felinck and six other men.—*Journal of the New York Assembly*, ed. 1764, p. 504, and *Colonial Laws of New York*, 2:240. On January 6, 1768, letters of administration for the estate of Peter Felinck, intestate, were granted to William, his son.—*Collections of the New York Historical Society*, 1898, p. 464.

tussen jan Coelons huys en myn Huys, het Erf achter het huys is omtrent 45 voet meer of min, de tuyn is voorsien met appel, peren, en morelle bomen, hollantse wyndruyven en van alderhande tuyn Vrucht[en] en Bloemen en een goede put die altyt water hout Syn een levende fonteyn met een Stal voor 2 à 3 koeyen. het huys is getimmert in't jaer 1725. Synde midden in't Dorp digt by de Meulen Kill.

Uyt beweging van bysondere redenen hebbe geoordeelt Uw wel Ed. dit bekend te maecten, of het eenigsints tot uw welEd. intrest mochte dienen. Een van myn Swagers heeft my 200 £ daer voor geoffereert, en by aldien uw welEd: geneg[en] syt, sal uw welEd de preferentie hebben, mits een weynig meer gevende, het huys alleen buyten het Erf heeft my over de 300 £ gekost.

De tuyn so als hy nu in Syn plantasie leyt is 100 £ weert al was het tussen broeders en dan soude voor het huys maer 100 £ hebben so dat by de 200 £ daerop verliese. Dog ik ben daer toe nu genootsaecht. Uw WelEd. kan het by Occasie (:als daer inclinatie toe heeft:) laeten besien en my Vereeren met desselfs resolutie in verwachtinge deses blyve met alle respect en Submissie.

WelEd: Hoogh achtbare Heer

Myn Heer

Uw: welEd: Onderdanigen getrouwen en
Verplichten Dienaer

P: FELINCK

ADDRESSED: Myn Heer

Myn Heer Janson

Consul van syn majt. van Groot Britt: Collo:
van de lant militie in de Graefschap van
Albanie in America etc. etc.
in Maquas Landt

Translation

RIGHT HONORABLE, HIGHLY ESTEEMED SIR!

DEAR SIR:

Having bought a piece of land in the jurisdiction of Albany, called the Aelplaets,¹ I am forced to sell my house and lot situated next to Jan Coelon. The house is 40 feet long and has three fireplaces. There are two rooms upstairs of 24 by 20 feet, width and length, and below a cellar-kitchen, 26 feet in length and 24 feet in width; two cellars, a summer cellar and underneath a winter cellar, in which it never freezes. A garret, 40 feet long and 24 feet wide all through, and a garret-loft; on which two garrets some thousands of schepels² can be stored. The lot or garden is from 240 to 260 feet long and 40 feet wide on the street, with an alley between Jan Coelon's house and my house. Behind the house the garden is about 45 feet wide, more or less. The garden contains apple, pear and sour cherry trees, Holland grape vines and all sorts of vegetables and flowers, and a good well, which is never dry, being a living spring. There is also a stable for two or three cows. The house was built in the year 1725 and is situated in the center of the village, close to the mill kill.

For special reasons I have judged it proper to inform your Honor hereof, in case it should be in any way of service to your Honor. One of my brothers-in-law has offered me £200 for it and if your Honor should be inclined to take it, your Honor shall have the preference, provided you give me a little more. The house alone has cost me over £300.

The garden as it is now laid out and planted is worth £100, even if it were³ between brothers; at that rate I should get but £100 for the house, or lose nearly £200 on it. However, I am now forced to it. Your Honor can, when there is an opportunity and you feel so inclined, have the premises looked over and then favor me with your decision.

¹ Eel Place.

² Of grain.

³ Sold.

In expectation thereof I remain with all respect and submission,
Right Honorable and Highly Esteemed Sir,

Your Honor's humble, faithful and obliged servant,

P: FELINCK

ADDRESSED: Mr Janson

Consul of His Majesty of Great Britain,
Colonel of the land militia in the county of
Albany in America, etc., etc.
in the Mohawk country

FROM JOSEPH CHEW

A. L. S.

New York Jan^y 1st. 174[8/]9

DEAR SIR

I wrote you a day or two agoe which I hope you will receive safe, I am this day setting out for Maryland where I shall stay three or four months and intend then for Jamaca Lawrie goes in about ten days for Jamaca I should have gone with him but have the offer of the disposing of a Cargoe of goods in Maryland and by the time they are sold I expect a vessell from Boston there which I hope to Load on Lawries a young fellow in Boston & my own Acco^t. for the west Indies I beg the fav^r of you my Dear Sir to write me by all oppertunites please to direct for me in Maryland to the Care of Cap^t Beverly Robinson in York the Inclosed is a Coppy of a letter I gave the Gov^r. which he promised to send Mons^r Lacorn and I beg the fav^r. of you to send this in case one should miscarry; I have also inclosed a letter for our friend Stoddert which beg the fav^r of you to take Care of; Pady is here and as well as ever he goes as far as Philladelphia with me, he follows is old trade searching about wherever he goes.

my Dear Coll^o I hope you are Assured of the sincerest regard I have and allways shall have for you as it would give me the Utmost Unneasiness if I immagin'd you did not think so it makes me mention it often. I must now bid you fare well which (after

paying you the Compliments of the day) I do by wishing from my soul all the Happiness your heart can desire or wish for and once more Assure you where ever I am I shall always have the most Honnourablest Oppinion of you and am with the Greatest Respect Dear Sir

Y^r most dutifull affectionate

JOS: CHEW

I hope the young Ladys at the
Castle are well my Compliments
to little Miss Michael at the Mohaws
& madam Curl'd locks at Conejesharry
as I cant well rememb^r the french
officers name have left a Blank w^{ch}
please to fill up
To

WILL^M JOHNSON Esq^r

ADDRESSED: To William Johnson Esq^r
at Mount Johnson

FROM WILLIAM GOF

D. S.

January 1, 1748/9

SIR

Please to pay to John Visger & Cap^t. Aront Stevens the Sum of four Pounds Eight an Eight pence new York Currancy for the Value Recieved of them in Qubeck this 1th. Day of January 1748/9 an Please it to account of

Sir your most humble Ser^t.

his

WILLIAM W Gof¹ GOF
mark

To Co^{LL} W^M. JOHNSON
at Mounth Johnsons

¹ Name repeated in the manuscript.

FROM CHRISTOPHER MACGRAW

D. S.

January 1, 1748/9

SIR

Please to Pay to aront Stevens & John Visger the Sum of four Pounds five Shillings New York Currancey for the Value Recieved of them in Quebec this 1th Day of Januuary 1748/9 and Please it to account of

Sir Your Humble Serv^t..

his

CHRISTOPHER X MACGRAW

marck

To COLL W^m JOHNSON
at Mounth Johnsons

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

A. L. S.

<Fort George, 6th January 174[8/19]>S^R

<I have sent> to Captain <Stoddert a Letter for the> Governour of Canada, under <a flying Seal,> which when you have perused I desire you will seal up for him to deliver; I have <gave> him a passport, and orders to follow such Instructions as you shall give him, so shall leave it to you not in the least doubting that you will do for the best for His Majesty's Service and the good of the Province.

I have rec'd Letters from Cap^{ts} Marshall and Clark with the Reports of L^{ts} Holland & Mills, concerning the Invalids in the Detachment at Schenectady, in which the both say that (on their being ordered by their respective Captains, to review those men) they are all able bodied Veterans & what they should not object to was they on that Service. I can not find that L^t Butler has

sent them a Copy of my Order for neither of them mention any thing of the detachment under his Command.

You said you would send me down some Affidavits relating to Collinss malepractice, but as yet I have rec'd none, so that I am not yet enabled to give that fellow his just rewards.

I have rec^d from the Mayor &c: & Justice of Albany, a report to my order to inquire into the affair of taking the Indian Papouses as pawns or pledges, and by the Deposition of Johannes Dow, (late Indian Interpreter at Oswego) they seem to blame Lieu^t Lindesay for buying a Girle from a Sachem of the Poughwatwicks (by your order) to give to Kenzegos Squaw, in the room of her husband killd in the late <war,¹ and in the same Deposition of Dows he says, that a Sachem of that Nation had given a boy to L^t Lindesay> (which he said was a <Prisoner of Annata>wassee). M^{rs} Brat offers to give <security to> return her Girl in May next at Oswego to any one I shall appoint, M^{rs} Abeel says she has one that her Son bought, but will do nothing in it till her Son comes home, he being now abroad. M^r Vandriesen did not obey their Summons so could not say any thing as to him. These are the heads of the Report. But you may assure the Indians I shall do every thing in order to find out the Matter & to prevent any thing of that kind for the future.

I would have you give in your Instruction to Cap^t Stoddert, that he should be very pressing that if by any means possible to get the two Indian Prisoners released immediatly & sent home to their Castles. The Doctor has sent you a Copy of the heads of both Mess^{rs} Sanders & Stodder<ts> Instructions for your perusal, which I leave to you, but the main point will be to gain the Liberty of the two Indians. I am S^r with sincerity

Your very humble Servant

G CLINTON

To COLL JOHNSON

¹ Johnson to Clinton, March 15, 1747/8, *q. v.*

FROM DAVID SCHUYLER

A. L. S.

*Canajoharie January the 9th. 1748/9*HONORABLE COLL^o JOHNSON

This is to inform you that I have an Indian here which is my Great frind of myne & have been this Eight Years with a pees of Coper oor Looking which I had give him weather he Could not find under the ground Like that and now he has found a brave good Coper mine where I will set my Life to pound for that it is a good mine and he is alone master of it because he found it and he promised me that no body shall buy or git that of him then I and them that I take in with me and now I Can tinck of no betther frinds or persons than Your honor & Mr John Lydius if you will be please to Strike in with me and my sun Pieter that wee may have part in it with you two than I and my Sun Shall go directly and git the Indian from hunting and bring him before you two and then Mr Lydius his Sun and I and my Sun Can go with the Indian and git Right Coper oor and bring it before You two, with the proviser that I and my Sun must have a bond of performance of ten thousand £ I hope you will Consider with Mr John Lydius about it So I Remain

Your most Humble Servent

DAVID SCHUYLER

ADDRESSED: To Coll: William Johnson att his house.

FROM JOSEPH CHEW

A. L. S.

Philadelphia Jan^y. 15, 174[8/]9

SIR

I take this opportunity by Capt. Morris of sending this I go for maryland tomorrow where believe shall stay five or six months, I beg the fav^r. of you to write me my Dear sir by all oppertunity

and direct to the Care of Mr John Nelson Merch^t in Philadelphia — the Preliminary articles just begin to appear¹ I am Very sorry to say I think Very dishonourable. Cape Breton is lost & Gibraltar in a fair way — our Brother sufferers who went to England are like to come of Very poorly Mr Hamilton a Considerable Merch^t of this place told me he was often in Company with Capt Campbell & the rest of our friends he says a Certain Great man thro' whose means we first entered into the service told those Gent^l. when they waited on him, he was surprised Gent^l. of there sence should engage in so mad an Affair & that his advise was for them to return to there [] get into there former way of life as soon as pos[sible] (fine Encouragement for poor fellows that had sold them selves out of house & home) there ans^wr was something to that purpose — nothing would give me more pleasure then to have the honnour to serve his Majesty but believe if ever I get into a good way of life again I shall be Very cautious how I quit it I hope my Dear Col^o. to have the pleasure of hearing from you soon and Assure you my best wishes do & always shall Attend you my Compliments to all friends [] I hope you'll accept the same your self, and believe me to be with Greatest respect Dear sir

Your Dutifull Affectionate Hble serv^t.

JOS: CHEW

ADDRESSED: To William Johnson Esq^r
 at Mount Johnson
 To the Care of Col^o Lydias
 at Albany

⌘ fav^r of }
 Cap^t. Morris }

¹ The peace of Aix-la-Chapelle was proclaimed October 7, 1748, old style.

FROM SABER DUPLESSY

A. L. S.

*the 2d of February, 1748/9*M^R JOHNSON

MONSIEUR

je recois tant de satisfaction de lhonneur de votre Connoissance e de Lamitie que vous mavez temoigne que je ment croirois indign[e] si je ni repondois par toute sorte de soins e dempresement a vous donner des marqu[es] e des assurance de La miene Cest pour quois je vous ecris cet Lette pour vous asurer de mes respects e vous prie de me Continuer La votre Comme ausy destre persuade que Le temps e Le Loignement ne changeront jamais La resolution que jay prise destre toute ma vie par reconnoissance e par inclination avec un profon respects

Monsieur

Votre tres humble e
tres obeisent serviteur
SABER DUPLESSY

jores ete flate de trouve chose curieuse de se peis qui us pus merite Latention de monsieur mes si quelque chose fais plesire a monsieur je Le pris de me Le mende sen seremonis vous me flatere in finiment

a montreal
le 2 fevrie 1749

Translation

SIR

I receive so much satisfaction from the honor of your acquaintance and from the friendship which you have shown to me that I should believe myself unworthy of it, if I did not respond with all care and eagerness to give you evidences and assurances of mine. This is why I write you this letter, to assure you of my respect and pray you to continue yours to me, as also to be persuaded that time and distance will never change the resolution

which I have taken to be all my life, through gratitude and inclination, with a profound respect

Sir

Your very humble and
very obedient servant
SABER DUPLESSY

I should have been pleased to find something curious in this country which might merit your attention, but if anything gives you pleasure, I beg you to send me word without ceremony. You will please me infinitely.

at Montreal
the 2d of February, 1749

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

A. L. S.

New York 6 Febr^y. 1748/9

SIR

I have received yours by Coll^o. Lydius, y^e report about Mons^r. De Repentigny was by M^r Barkelys not understanding perfectly y^e French Priest

As you expect your people back from Canada you desire to know what is to be done in y^e case as also about getting the French Prisoners from y^e Indians, as to y^e first the Assembly no doubt will answer any demands y^t is reasonable Capt Stoddard is out for quarters & ought to be allowed handsomely for his trouble, but as to y^e Interpreter he seemed to take it as a favour and asked it as such to let him go, and at the time it was mentioned in Council about some peoples going & the allowancies to be made them it was y^e opinion of the Chief justice and all y^e rest of y^e Gentlemen acquainted in those affairs y^t. I could find people enough at Albany & Connecticut y^t would be glad to go at their own expence on y^e prospect of Trade & would be very much obliged to, and some did offer which I did not approve off

as I knew it would be disagreeable to you, This I am affraid will occasion some trouble with the assembly but will do what I can.

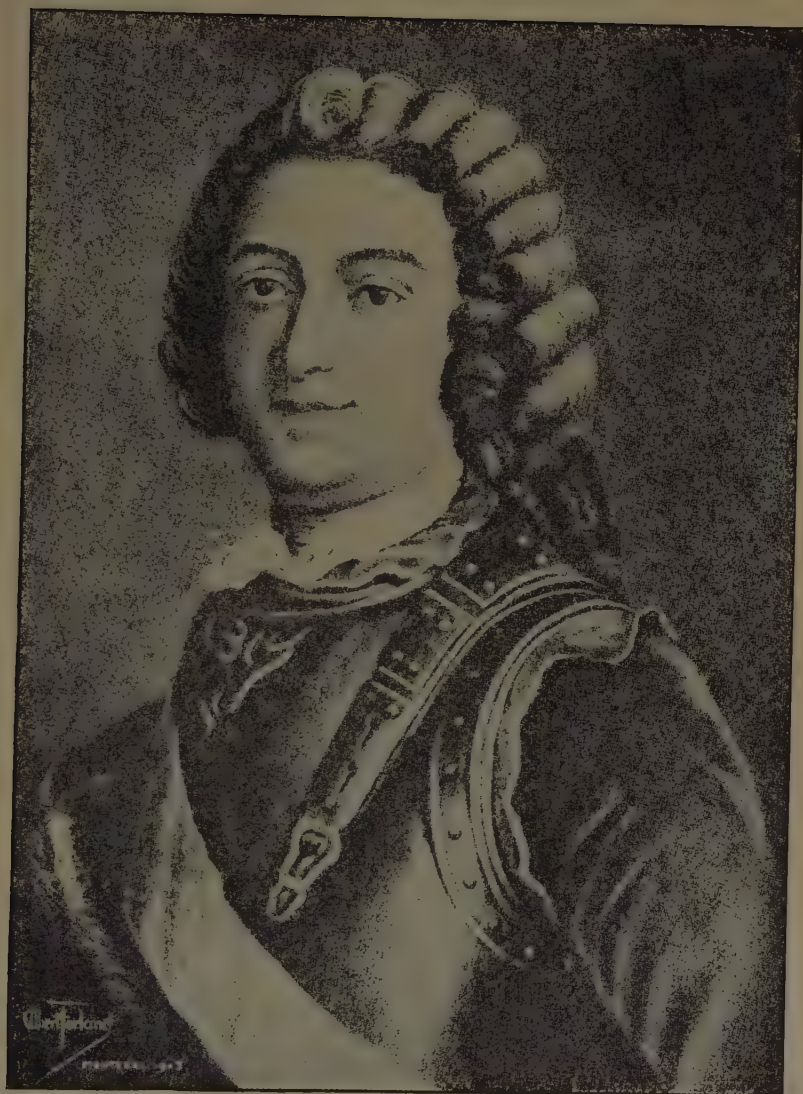
As to the affair of the french Prisonors in the hands of y^e Indians, it was agreed by Hendrick & those down with him to deliver up some to you as soon as they got home. The rest I took it for granted you was to get from them in the best manner you could I think it was agreed to y^t those y^t had relations to be redeemed at Canada was to pay something towards y^e redemption of the French Prisonors, tho' I dont Imagine it would come up to y^e whole price but must manage y^t as well as you can y^t the Assembly may make as few objections as possible.

The Smiths you sent this Fall I shall do all in my power to get them paid when y^e Assembly meets if they refuse you may depend on the promiss I have all along made you y^t you dont suffer for any ingagem^{ts} you enter into on account of the Indians for His Majes^{ts}. service and y^e good of the Province. (But this must be only between us) as I am very well satisfied all you have done & continue to do, is with no other View, what you have to lay before the Assembly desire you will send me down

I had forgot to mention one thing y^t the assembly will take hold off, y^t those that went to Canada have been provided with every thing Necessary from Crown Point to Montriall or Quebeck & back again, I dont think y^t shoud be any reason for stoppiges, but they will especially as they be not their Creatures that went, but shall consider more of these things, at present not very well able to look into affairs having been a good deal out of order for some time past & not able to go down staires yet.

Old Livingston¹ has at last departed this life & not left his fellow behind him, unless y^e person y^t succeeds &c. As you desire I inclose you Lidseys Warrant for being Commissary & to follow Such orders as he shall receive from me or you as

¹ Philip Livingston, second proprietor of the Manor of Livingston.



Lagaisfonie

you may see in reading it & hope he will not make a bad use of this our goodness, for its more than he deserves.

We all joyn in Complim^{ts}. & am with great sincerity Sir

Your faithfull friend & servant

G CLINTON

I have a favour to beg of
you from M^{rs} Clinton
She desires you will get some
of y^e Indians to look out for
some of y^e Wild Turkey Eggs
this Spring & send them down
packed up so as not to be Cracked
for her sett under Hens, You will
greatly oblige her in getting them
as I believe it will be impossible to
get them alive.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Governour Clinton's
Letter
February 6th. 1748/9

MARQUIS DE LA GALISSONNIÈRE ¹ TO GEORGE CLINTON

Contemporary Copy

[February, 1748/9]

SIR

In Execution of the Orders of the king my Master, I have Delivered up to M^r Stoddert Your Deputy, All the English prisoners retained in my Government that have Been willing to go with him, they are in number four & twenty.

In Regard of the thirteen that have Been willing to Stay in this Colony, you may See, Sir, (By the postscripts which I put to the List of the prisoners in General, and By the three verbal processes which I gave to the Said M^r Stoddert) the reason that Obligated them to take that resolution I have Given the Said M^r

¹ Governor of Canada, 1745-49.

Stoddert the facility to Spake to all the prisoners, And he can acquaint you with the Satisfaction I Should have had if they had Been all willing to follow him and that I have done all laid in my power to Engage them to it; there is no mention made in the Said list nor in the Said verbal processes of one named Cristopher mac Graw, Native of Dublin In Irland, Because he has not Been reclaimed and having Made abjuration Since Some time, he has not Been wiling to go to New England. It is an action of which Mr. Stoddert may Bee acquainted, Being no Body hindered him from Seeing and Speaking to the Said Mac grow.

You have Sir, Orders from the king, your master, Equal to mine, there having Been a duplicate of them Sent to me, I am perswaded you Should have Been Eager to put them in Execution how Ever I am agreed with Mr Stoddert that as soon as he Shall Be Arived at fort St fredrick, he Shall have the honnour to give you an account of it By one or two of the Said prisoners whom he Shall Dispatch On purpose that you may Directly Send Back All the french & Indian prisoners which may Be in your power to Mr Lydius's house with Orders to the Oficerr which you Shall Charge with their Conduct to give warning to Mr Stoddert of his arrival and to fix him a day that the prisoners may find them Selves together at the End of the great Carring place of the Lack St. Sacrement to the end that they may Conclude the liberty of the One and of the Other.

The Said Mr Stoddert and Mr Van Schaick Can acquaint you of my attention towards them, and that the king has paid the Lodging and Dieting of Mr Stoddert and that Morover then that, all the rest of the prisoners have Been favourably traited. I was very much Surprised, Sir, to understand that you have not used the Same civility towards Mr Beaubassin,¹ The Officers Bearers of my orders in Your Government and princepally for the Interest of the two nations Ought to Enjoy the Same advantages which my predecessors and me have always procured to your Deputies.

¹ Hertel de Beaubassin.

I Stay with Impatience for the arrival of Mr De Beaubassin in Order to hear of the¹

I have the honnour to Be with A great Deal of Esteem and Consideration.

Sir

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Gov^r. of Canadas
Letter to Gov^r. Clinton:

FROM ROBERT SANDERS

A. L. S.

Albany March y^e 6th. 1748/9

COLL. JOHNSON

HON^D: S^R:

I have now before me Your Esteemed Favour of the 2^d Instant, and agreeable thereto I have had Cap^t: M'Ginn at my house who Chose you the goods In the Enclosed Bill of Parcells Specified, The w^{ch}. send ☞ his order to Schonectendy ☞ Mr: Sander Van Eps, who I hope & Charge to take good Cear thereof and to forward em to you ☞ first opportunity, or to your order to him I wish em Safe to your hands & to Content

I was Glad that you with all yours were well and Pray The Lord it may Long Continue, and as to News we have had None for some time, there Being no Body Come Since the Sleeds That Carried the french Gentlemen Down to New York

We have had two french men Lately Come from Canada with a Packet to be forward by Cap^t: Shue & a Sherrieff to Paris, they had no Pass from their Governour, they Both told me that they were told That their pass was in one of their packets, and that other wise They would not have Come, they further told me that they were Come By themselves & that there was no News at Canada (only that there was an Arch Deacon or Eveck Dead) The Mayor ordered the Sherrieff thereon to take them

¹ Sentence unfinished.

at his house for 2 days & then to Depart as the Sherriff had a Letter of Credit from a Gentlemen at Canada To find em while here & to Set em out again on their Return which the Sherriff said he would willingly do, But I heard Last Night that they are here still, But on what acco^t. I Could not Hear only hear a Report in Town that one M^r fort should have Seen a french man & Indian in the woods at Canishgejoone & that it is Supposed they went to our Mohacks (But if true or not I Cant Say My father and wife Joins me In Love to you I assure you I am with Esteem

Hon'd Sr: Your Assured Friend and most
obliged Humble Servant

ROB^t: SANDERS

P: S if Coll & my Self had been
In York I would have offered his Ex^{cey}:
a good Sum of money for the post in our County
now Vacant But is now to Late

ADDRESSED: To The Hon^{ble}: William Johnson Esq^r
at Mount Johnson

FROM ROBERT SANDERS

*A. Df.*¹

Albany March 6th: 1748/9

Coll: William Johnson Bougt:
of Rob^t: Sanders & Cap^t: M'Ginn

To 4 p ^s : Indian Blankets	@ £
8 p ^s : Red Gartstring	@ 6/ p ^s :
8 p ^s : Red D ^o :	@ 7/6 p ^s :
33 Brace Kittles w ^t : 109½ fl	@ 3/ & fl
16 p ^s : Bindings	@ 6/

¹ Inclosed in Sanders to Johnson, March 6, 1749, q. v.

FROM BENJAMIN STODDERT

A. L. S.

New York March ye: 7th: 1748/9

SIR

I Yesterday received yours & the Bearer of this and it gave me an Infinite Pleasure to hear you were in good health.

I think I wrote you by the Slays that brought us down that the French Gent: and my self were well received by his Excellency but cant as yet inform you how Mons^r. Desligneris is like to Succeed on his embassy as he has not as yet had an Audience in regard to Business His Excellency being much Indisposed ever since our arrival tho: is now well recovered; and expect in Two or three Days their will be a Council called and after that (as I expect to be before the Council) shall &happ be able to Inform You how he is like to Succeed, which you may depend on hearing from me by the first Opportunity that offers; tho: expect to be up my self in some of the first Sloops, in order to make one trip to Oswego and try whether fortune will be more favourable to me in trade then she has in the life of a Soldier.

His Excellency has been so good as to advance a small matter of money to me to subsist on till he can have a Council called and has Promised then to endeavour to have the whole advanced to me; which if I am disappointed in I am afraid I must be Obligated to depend on the D——d Assembly for what is due to me and if so, shall expect very little for my trouble as you are sensible they are such D——d S——d—ls that they would do any thing to distress an Honest fellow; tho': as his Excellency seems well Pleased with my Conduct &c in Canada, am in hopes he will not let me be a Sufferer and has desired me to keep secret what money he advances me on that Head.

There is arrived here with in this few days Three Vessels Two from Jamaica and one from Coraso but no news by any of them; but Plenty of Lymes and send you by this Bearer one Hundred and if he had a Conveniency of carrying them would have sent

you more as their is a great Plenty, and within this Three Days have fell from 18 Shillings £ Hundred to Eight.

I Paid your Compliments to french Gent. as you desired, and in return they begg that you will accept of theirs they being all in good Health and seem much Pleased with New York as they have once a Week a Ball and a Consert to Divert them besides other Diversions entertainments &c given them by the Gentlemen of the Place.

There is no letters in the Post Office for you but Inclose you One from Mr. Desligneris the other from Mr. Repontinier

I am with the greatest sincerity and truth, Sir

Your most Obliged Humble Servant

B: STODDERT

P. S: I hope in 14 or Fifteen Days to leave this Place at farthest for Albany. My Compliments to all friends Which I believe is but very few at Present

B: S:

To COL^o. JOHNSON

HUBERT MARSHALL TO JOHN M. ROSEBOOM

A. L. S.

Albany 17th. March 1748/9

MR. ROSEBOOM

I am realy very much Surprized that You shou'd Offer to Disobey Orders, when every Officer must know the Consequence of it, for which reason I now Order that W^m. Collman be Imediatly sent down, & how You cou'd take upon You to send down Richardson in the room of Edm^d. Weeks I can't tell when You know I sent him in the room of Coldman & I must tell You that it is not in Your Power to Exchange Men as You please, I hope You will for the future not do any thing like this, for it is Lessening me in the Comm^d. I have here in the absence of Governor Clinton, Dont take what I write to You Amiss for I am

Your friend I Expect every Month a Return of Your Command, I hope You will take Care not to let the Men be Absent at Nights least as the Spring of the Year is Comming they may Desert. I hope You & M^{rs}. Roseboom are well & we beg our Services may be Acceptable & beg You will believe me with the greatest Truth

Sir Your most humble Servant

HUBERT MARSHALL

P. S. Serjeant McKenny sent down on O'bryon to list with me & he listed at Schonectedy with Major Clarkes Serjeant so tell him I dont take it well as he Cou'd have done it at Fort Hunter

ADDRESSED: To Captain Roseboom
Commander of the Garrison
Fort William
In the Mowhawk

Per Samuel Richardson

LIST OF HUBERT MARSHALL'S MEN

A List of Cap^t. Mar<shall's> Men now Under the Comm^d of Lieu^t Roseboom at the Mowhawks

Serg^t Alex^r McKenny
John Evans Drumer

John Tingue
Nath^l. English
John Backus
Edmund Weeks
Rich^d. Abbott
Alex^r Grant

Tho^s. Miller
John Goff
James Guttery
Garrett Arkson
Christian Spelcher
John Wolf Bartlett

FROM CADWALLADER COLDEN¹

A. L. S.

<New York March 30th 1749><S^R>

My son John will deliver this into <y>our hands who goes now to Albany to take possessi<o>n of his office of Clerk. As he is young and has no acquaint<a>nce in the place I trust to your Friendship in giving advice on any emergency that may happen. The present circumstances of affairs makes me think it improper to recommend him to any other of my acquaintances at this time. & for that reason you'll excuse I hope my giving you this trouble. I expect his Excellency will write to you on the affair on which M^r DeLignerie is here. Unless he change his tone I do not expect it will come to any issue at this time. You will do me much pleasure by putting it in my power to shew in any manner how much I am Sr

Your most humble servant

CADWALLADER COLDEN

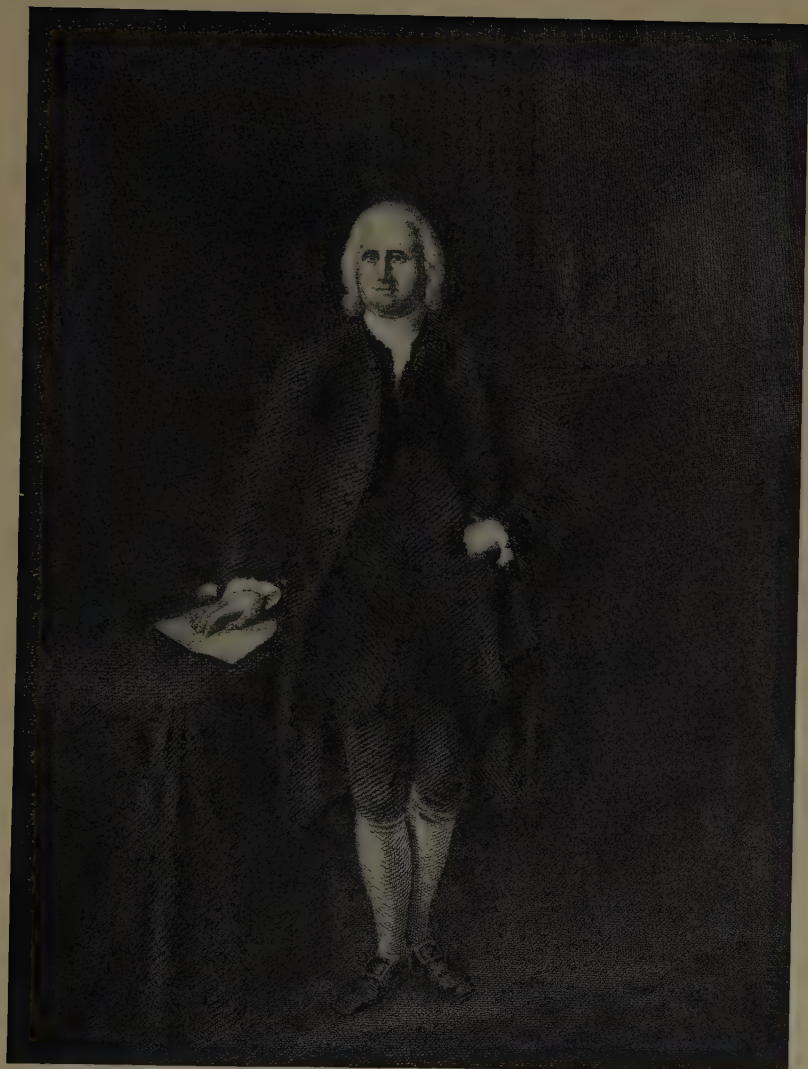
INVOICE FROM SAMUEL AND WILLIAM BAKER

D. S.

London 26 April 1749

Invoice of Merchandize Consigned M^r. John Watts in
New York by the Ship Antelope, Cap^t. John Amory —

¹ Cadwallader Colden was born in Scotland in 1688 and died on Long Island in 1776. He was a physician and scientific man and was the first surveyor general of the province. He was president of the council and lieutenant governor, performing the duties of governor at different periods. These functions he exercised at the time of the stamp act riots, during which he was personally threatened by a mob, and his property burned. Among his publications was a *History of the Five Nations Depending on the Province of New York*, New York, 1727; republished under the title of *History of the Five Nations of Canada*.



Cravallader B. Ben

on Account & Risque of Mr. William Johnson Merchant
in Albany, under ther Marginal Mark and Numbers

159	A Cask Containing & Cost.	£-	2	2		
	1 m. 1/2 Inch Batten Brads	-	-	9		
	2 m. 1 Inch D°					
	at 10 ^d	-	1	8		
	1 m. 1 1/2 Inch D° ..	-	1	4		
	1 m. 2 Inch D° ..	-	1	10		
	40 m. 3 ^d . Lath Nails 1/6..	3	-	-		
	5 m. 20 ^d . Flooring Brad 6/	1	10	-	£4	17 9
160	A Cask Containing & Cost.	£-	1	8		
	40 m. 6 ^d . Nails 2/7 1/2....	5	5	-	5	6 8
161	A Cask Containing & Cost.	£-	1	8		
	15 m. 12 ^d . Nails 5/2....	3	17	6	3	19 2
162	A Cask Containing & Cost.	£-	3	3		
	1 Doz. Thumb Latches..	-	7	6		
	8 Beaufet Locks 1/9	-	14	-		
	8 Rim'd Closet Locks	-	15	-		
	8 Iron rim'd Locks with Brass Knobs & Box Staples Compleat 5/.	2	-	-		
	2 large Stock Locks with Bars Screws & Staples 7/	-	14	-		
	18 Extra bright Bolts on Plates with Screws 10 ^d	-	15	-		
	1 Doz D°	-	15	-		
	15 Extra Shutter Bolts & Nails 1/9	1	6	3		
	18 Short D°6 ^d	-	9	-		

1 Doz. strong Spring Bolts and Nails	- 6 -	
1 Doz. Extra Side Hinges with smooth filed Joints & Nails	} A - 7 -	
1 Doz. Do. with Screws & Nails		B - 11 -
1 Doz. Do°	C - 14 -	
6 pr large Extra HL Hinges with smooth filed Joints, Screws & Nails	} 1 10 -	
18 pr. Do. with rising Joints, Screws & Nails. 3/6.		3 3 -
1 Doz. Sash Lines.....	- 8 -	
6 Doz. Sash Pulleys.. 1/.	- 6 -	
12 pounds best Glew.. 5 ^d ..	- 5 -	
1 Large Brass Knocker...	- 8 -	15 17 -

[16]3 A Bundle made with Can- vas & Cord Containing & Cost	£- - 9	
1 pr. Large double hand- screws	4 4 -	4 4 9

[164-5] 2 Chests Containing & Cost	£- 5 -	
500 Squares of Crown Glass 11 by 9 qt. 345 feet 11 ^d	} 15 16 3 16 1 3	

[166] A Box Containing & Cost.	£- - 9	
40 pounds of Dry white Lead 3 ^d	- 10 -	
6 Large Brushes.....	- 3 -	- 13 9

167	A Case Containing & Cost	£- 3 6			
	a Large Beam with the	4 - -	}		
	Hooks for D ^o . of the best				
	make				
	Completed				
	a Pocket Microscope with				
	7 Magnifiers	2 2 - 6 5 [6]			
		£57 5 []			
	To Fees of Entry & Cocket	£- 4 -			
	To Cartage to Waterside,	1 7 -	}		
	Charges there, & Water-				
	age on board.....				
	To Primage & Bills of				
	Lading	- 5 1 1 16 []			
		59 1 []			
	To Commission 2½ ^{pp}				
	Cent.	1 9 []			
		£60 11 []			

Errors Excepted

SAM^L & WM BAKER

FROM JONATHAN STEVENS

A. L. S.

[May 1749¹]

CORNEL JOHNSON:

SIR

This is to acquaint you that we Meet Kensago with Seven prisoners an three Schulps an was there verey Long a Shore an said that there was abundance of Enemy upon Corse that it was unposible to geet through an brought out a prisoner an a Schulp

¹ Date conjectural.

an made his speach to them this day you have the Luck to kill Enemy without danger an gave them to them as they thornd Bad in Spite of me one an all no more at present but will Leet you no further.

Remain your Ser:

JONTH. STEVENS

TO GEORGE CLINTON

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:502, is a letter of April 14th from Lieutenant Desligneris to Governor Clinton in which Johnson's work in exchange of prisoners is mentioned; p. 505-6, a letter of April 28th from Johnson to Clinton, concerning exchange of prisoners and efforts of the French to gain control of the Five Nations.

FROM BEVERLY ROBINSON¹

A. L. S.

New York, May 9th <1749>

DEAR S^R

I rec^d your favour y^e 28th last Month & am much Obliged to you for it, Have since Rec^d a Letter from Chew with one Enclosed for Stoddert, which I make bold to Recommend to

¹ He was a son of the Hon. John Robinson, of Virginia, who was president of that colony on the retirement of Governor Gooch. He emigrated to New York, and married Susanna, daughter of Frederick Phillips, who owned an immense landed estate on the Hudson river. By this connection Mr Robinson became rich. When the Revolutionary controversy commenced, he was living upon that portion of the Phillips estate which had been given to his wife, and there he desired to remain in the quiet enjoyment of country life, and in the management of his large domain. . . . He was opposed to the measures of the ministry, gave up the use of imported merchandise, and clothed himself and his family in fabrics of domestic manufacture. But he was also opposed to the separation of the colonies from the mother country. Still he wished to take no part in the conflict of arms. The importunity of friends overruled his own judgment, and he entered the military service of the Crown. His standing entitled him to high rank. Of the Loyal American Regiment,



STAIRCASE OF FORT JOHNSON

your Care, & Desire you will be so good as to Convey it to him by y^e first Opportunity; Bryant is arrived & we hear has brought a proclamation of peace which is to be proclaimed very soon; we no othe publick news, but will Detain you a little longer with some of <this> Town. Sunday the 23th April as y^e <Greyhound was> Cruising about fort George (which he Const<antly did) he> Espyed a Sail in the Dusk of y^e Evening <which he> immediately gave Chase to & Continued <it all night.> The next Morning he came up with her <Just as she> Entered the Borders of New England, <where he Boarded> her sword in hand; we hear since that <a Gent who was> his Consort is sued by y^e gov^r in an Action <of 30000£> Damages, for taking that prize, <She is no less then> y^e Lucy Gally belonging to George Clinton

I am < >

<BEV: ROBINSON>

If Stoddert is not gone to Oswego pray remember me to him.
<To Coll^o William Johnson, at Albany, P^r favour of Mr Cornelis Scuyler>

raised principally in New York, by himself, he was accordingly commissioned the colonel. He also commanded the corps called the Guides and Pioneers. Of the former, or the Loyal Americans, his son Beverly was lieutenant-colonel, and Thomas Barclay, major. Besides his active duty in the field, Colonel Robinson was employed to conduct several matters of consequence; and he figures conspicuously in cases of defection from the Whig cause. . . . Colonel Robinson, at the peace, with a part of his family, went to England. His name appears as a member of the first Council of New Brunswick, but he never took his seat at the board. His wife is included in the confiscation act of New York, and the whole estate derived from her father passed from the family. The value of her interest may be estimated from the fact that the British government granted her husband the sum of £17,000 sterling, which, though equal to eighty thousand dollars, was considered only a partial compensation. After going to England, Colonel Robinson lived in retirement. He was unhappy; and did not conceal the sufferings which preyed upon his spirits. He resided at Thornbury, near Bath, and there closed his days, in 1792, aged seventy.—Lorenzo Sabine, *Biographical Sketches of Loyalists of The American Revolution*, 2:221-23.

FROM JOHANNES VANDERHEYDEN

A. L. S.

Alb^y. May y^e. 13th 1749COLL^l.HON^d. S^r.

My Last to you was y^e: 8th. Inst. now In additⁿ: to th^t: we have y^e: Pleas[ur]e To acq^t: you tha^t: peace was to be procl^d: at New y^k. yisterday y^e. 12th: and this Day arriv^d. here Peter Van Alen and Unloaded his vessell, 24 Bails Besides Boxes Truncks &ca: is Stored in your House, a Sight pleas^t: to your well wishers & friends — In my Last I Signaf^d: th^t: I had y^e. finest parcell of wampen Ever I had before, w^h. I Shall Save for you, acco^g. to my promise, at your Command — only I hereunto ad with all Imaginable Respect begging to be Excused. pray Except of my willingness till an opportunity of Requital offers, I [must?] lie under the wei^t. of your Fav^{rs}. That you may plainly Receive th^t: I am & Remain your assured friend

And most Humb^l: Serv^t:JOH^s: VANDERHEYDEN

ADDRESSED: To Coll^l. Will^m. Johnson Esq^r:
att Mount Johnson

FROM AND TO GEORGE CLINTON

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:506-7, is a letter of May 19th from George Clinton to Johnson, on efforts necessary to defeat French influence with the Six Nations; p. 512-13, a letter of the 26th from Johnson to Clinton, dealing with difficulties in the way of obtaining the release of Mohawks in the hands of the French.

TO GEORGE CLINTON

A. Df.

[May, 1749¹]

SIR

In my last I shewed [the?] Necessity of haveing a good Ingenious, Smart [Man at Oswe]go with a good Cargoe of such Necessarrys as [] time have occasion for, as I am fully sensible of th[e bene]fitt it would be to the Country in generall, I cannot help reminding you of it again. And it would moreover save a great deal of Expense [] trouble by Sending down the Indians whenever Wanted only writeing the person there a letter, & he could send for a Sachem of Each Nation who live near about all, and tell them to go down. Wh. required no More trouble. And then being always there, could in a great measure stop, or hinder the [French?] from sending their Emis-saries among all Nations []s as they daily do to our great prejudice this [] great Consequence, hope it may be well considered []l of Senecas at my house, who tell me that [] N]iagara &ca have Invited Severall of the Upper [] Meet there, and that Some are gone there to hear [wha]t he has to Say. Now if there was a good Man at Oswego he could stop their going there, or to Canada, & could also Send Severall of the Ottawawas & other foreign Indians down here to join us. There is no Man in the Country, so fitt for it, as Captⁿ. Stephens if he would undertake it and Could be spared. the next to him is Liu^t. Fisher who really has a great deal more to say among the Indians than I ever Imagined. if y^r. Excell^y comes up soon as is Expected here, I would be Glad to Recive y^r. Instructions Concerning the Indians comeing down, for they Expect a Call this Summer from you or Yours — I hereinclosed send Y^r. Excell^y. the Acc^t. of w^t. provisions I supplied Captⁿ. Shafers Men wth. last Summer by y^r.

¹This letter appears to have been written about the middle of May, 1749.

directions. & hope it may be [] ed now. [As] there is 3 Months pay due to my Officers & []th Day of June, & as they are all upon hard Service []eive their pay, w^h. I hope Y^r. Excellcy. will send.

INDORSED: []^r Clinton

FROM CADWALLADER COLDEN

A. L. S.

Fort George New York <May 27th 1749>

S^r

The bearer of this M^r Kalm, is a Sweedish Gent'n a Professor in the Academy of Sciences there & is now travilling in order to make discoveries in Botany & Astronomy For this purpose he is on his way to Canada with a design to return in the Fall The purpose for which he travels, the advancement of usefull knowledge will be a strong motive to you to give him any assistance he wants & he wants no other but that of advice in what manner to travel to Canada most conveniently & with the least Danger whether by Oswego or Croun point He comes strongly recommended to me by the King of Sweeden's Physicean & other friends in Europe & therefore what civility you shew him will lay an obligation on me.¹

We every day expect Waddel with news by him that will be agreeable to you I have yours in answer to that I wrote by my son & I thank you for the civilities you have shewn him I am
S^r

Your most humble servant

CADWALLADER COLDEN

To COLL JOHNSON

¹ See *The Annals of Albany*, by Joel Munsell, 1:43-63; and *Kalm's Travels into North America*, in John Pinkerton's *Voyages and Travels*, v. 3.

The bearer of this Mr. Halon is a
Gent^l a Professor in the Academy of Sciences here
about travelling in order to make Discoveries in
Astronomy For this purpose he is on his
way to Canada with a design to return in the Fall
the purpose for which he travels, the advancement of
natural knowledge will be a strong motive to you to
give him any assistance he wants & he wants no
other but that of Advice in what manner to travel
to Canada most conveniently & with the least danger
whether by Congo or Gunn point He was strongly
recommended to me by the King of Sweden's Physicians
& their friends in Europe & therefore what civility
you sh^d him will lay an obligation on me
We every day expect Waddel with news by him that
will be agreeable to you I have yours in answer
to that I wrote by my son & I thank you for the
civilities you have shown him I am

Sⁿ

Your most humble servant

Cadwallader Colden

To Col Johnson

TO CAPT. — ROSS

A. Df. S.

May <30th 1749.>CAPT^N. ROSS

SIR

I give you Joy of the receipt of your goods, which I understand you received. I would have wrote you before, but Every Day this fortnight past, expected a letter from you but now at last am obliged to write, on acc^t of Captⁿ. Griffiths Sailing. I send down 2 Hogsheads of firrs &ca. In order for you to Shipp them on board of Griffith, or the first that Sails for London, with whom please to Send the Inclosed Packquet to Mess^{rs}. Baker, In London. There are 40 Bear Skins which I would have packed in one Bundle or reel, & Must be marked on the outside W I N^o. 80 & Sent along with the 2 Hogsheads. You must get Bills of lading Signed, & Send me one. pray let me know when the next Vessel Sails for London, who is y^e Master & what the Vessels name, as I have not had the papers this good while, I am quite att a loss to know those things, I wish you would Send me the Papers Constantly by every opertunity, [*only enclosing them in a p^s. of blank paper directed to me. I should always gett them.*¹] I beg you will ask Mr. Barclay² whether he has no books of mine. if he has Send them up & them that Phill Livingston, & Doctor Shuckburgh has of Mine please <to let me know what> quantity of Strouds you have gott, w^t Sorts <& the lowest price. I may Phaps get you a Chap for 'em please> to buy for me 1 hundred of <Good loaf Sugar, let one half> be double refined, the other Single. <I wish you> would Send me up Some limes, or lemons <every 14 days> Safely packed up. pray let me know how much Bever &ca is left yet unsold, let me also know the lowest price of Rum, & whether it is like to be lower. As I understand there are a parcel

¹ Erased in original.

² Rev. Henry Barclay, then rector of Trinity Church, New York.

of Negroes Expected Soon into York, If they are reasonable, I would have you buy me one, or two likely boys abt 14 or 16 years of age. and in such Case Send them up as Soon as you Can, also a good Cliver lad of a white man, if any Such to be had there I should be glad you would buy one for me, if such Comes; let me know if it is worth while, to Send down more Leather, Bever laps, middleing Racoons &ca. Such as will not answer to England being too small altho as good firr as any Can be for Hatters. I am wth kind Love to you, M^{rs} Ross & the Children

Y^r Assured friend, & hearty Welwisher

W^m. JOHNSON

P S: pray. Send me up a good Matross, to lye upon by the first opertunity & the arm Chair if made.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Coppy of a letter to Captⁿ Ross May 30th. 1749

FROM JOHN B. VAN EPS

A. L. S.

Oswego 4 June 1749

DEAR SR:

I Send your Honer 3 Packs of Bever Mark'd B VE Nomb^r 6-7-& 8 w^t. 207^{ll} & 2 Bear Skins 2 P^r M^r Eysack Wenpell which I hope will Come Safe to Your hands and are verry Good w^h: I hope will Cred^t me for if any bato Setts out Soon after this Pray Send me Some wanpon & a fue p^s of Gimpts In a Trunck or bag for I have sold all my Small Goods a Moost I Goat 8 pack Since my wyf went away have also Sent y^e tongs by B^r: Elyas post & y^e fatt by Mothr^r. Hansocas for y^e Haids I have tryd y^e provision batoos but would not Carry thim So I Conclude with Cind Love and Respectt and Remain

Your Honers Most Humble S^r.

JN^o B V EPS

FORT JOHNSON

BUILT BY SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON, BARONET, 1ST BART, FOR HIMSELF FROM 1742 TO 1768 AND BY HIS SON SIR JOHN JOHNSON, WHO WAS HIMSELF ENLIGHTENED BY THE LIGHT OF THE REVOLUTION AT HIS FATHER'S DEATH, FROM 1768 TO 1774.

IN MEMORY OF LADY JOHNSON

LADY JOHN, F. POLLEY, MARY WATTS, WAS ENLIGHTENED BY THE SOCIETY OF COLONIAL NEW YORK, OF THE GREAT BRITAIN, FOR HER BEAUTY, SOBER, AND INTELLECTUAL GIFT, AND THE FACT THAT SHE OCCURRED THIS MANNING IN CONNECTION WITH HER BROTHER MAJOR STEPHEN WATTS, BARONET, 1ST BART, AND UNDER SIR JOHN JOHNSON AT ORISKANY, 1782, HER FATHER, 1ST BART, WAS KILLED.

MAJOR GENERAL JOHN WATTS DE PEYSTER

GREAT GENERAL, 1ST BART, OF JOHNSON, AND MAJOR STEPHEN WATTS, AND MAJOR GENERAL JOHN WATTS DE PEYSTER, 1ST BART, IN COLONIAL NEW YORK.

PURCHASED FORT JOHNSON

AND PRESENTED TO THE MORTGAGEE, COLONIAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY, NOVEMBER 1905.

THE FORT WAS BUILT BY THE SOCIETY.

IN MEMORY OF THE DONOR.

MAJOR GENERAL JOHN WATTS DE PEYSTER

TABLET IN THE HALL, FORT JOHNSON

Sr Please to pay y^e beator Wemp the Sume of twalf Shill:
for bring: Down thies packs and Chiarge it to Account of S^r
Your Most Humble S^r

JN^o B V EPS

ADDRESSED: To The Honorable Coll: Johnson
att Mount Johnson

Pr. Mr. Wemp

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

L. S.

New York, 7th June 1749

S^r

I have the favour of yours of 26th of last month & am well pleased with the accounts you give me of your Conduct with the Indians. You may assure the Mohawks that the reason of my not sending back the French prisoners which you have in your hands is in order to secure the return of their people who are prisoners in Canada, & that these people shall not have their Liberty on any conditions but that of the Liberty of the Indians who are prisoners in Canada. That all these messages from the Gov^r of Canada are only an Artifice to draw them to Canada, in order to make mean & shamefull submissions to him there, & in order to prevent any of their people making such a shamefull step, so disgracefull to their Nation you must endeavour to persuade them to deliver the remaining prisoners into your hands that they may be kept safe 'till the Liberty of the Indians be secured. And for this purpose if you have any apprehension, that the French now at your house, cannot be safely kept there you are to send them to Albany to the sheriff, there to be kept in Goal, till such time, as he shall receive my Orders for their Liberty. If you think it may be attended with any inconveniency to keep the French in Prison at Albany then you may send them down to New York where I shall take care to have them secured

Inclosed is an order to the Sheriff to receive the prisoners from you, & to keep them in safe Custody.

But as the Indians are frequently very humersome, & there must be some regard had to it, you are allowed to take some Latitude as to the Execution of these Orders, by delaying the full execution of them, till you inform me of any inconveniency which you may apprehend may attend the strict observance of them. I have rec'd no orders from Court relating to the Liberty of Prisoners, & I delay sending to Canada for their Liberty in expectation of receiving such, and am, Sr

Your very humble Servant

G: CLINTON

ADDRESSED: On his Majesty's Service
 To Coll William Johnson
 at Mount Johnson
 to the care of Coll Lydius
 & favour of Cap^t Winne

GEORGE CLINTON TO THOMAS WILLIAMS

D. S.

June 8, 1749

By his Excellency the Honble George Clinton
 Captain General & Governour in Chief of the
 Province of New York &c. &c. &c.

You are to receive so many of the French Prisoners now in the hands of Coll William Johnson as he shall send to you & to keep them in safe Custody in the Goal of your County, till such time as you shall receive further Orders from me & for so doing this shall be your sufficient Warrant Given at Fort George in New York this eighth day of June 1749

G. CLINTON.

To

THOMAS WILLIAMS Esq^r
 High Sheriff of the
 City & County of Albany

TO GEORGE CLINTON

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:520, is a letter of June 25th from Johnson to George Clinton, showing his success in preventing Mohawks from going to Canada to exchange prisoners.

FROM JOHN SERGEANT¹

A. L. S.

Stockbridge July 1. 1749

SIR

I take the freedom to send you inclosed with this a Proposal of mine made some years ago for the more effectual promoting of Knowledge and Virtue among the Indians. By reading what I send you will understand the general Design: which I hope will gain your approbation.

I have the Satisfaction to inform you, that the projection has met with so much encouragement from several worthy Persons, both in this Country, but especially in England, that I have erected a House for the design proposed, and have got it in such forwardness, that a School according to the projected plan is now kept in it. By the extraordinary Liberality of a Single Gentleman in England (Mr Hollis,² of whose former benefactions to us you will find mention made in the Pamphlet inclosed with this,) we have 12 Boys maintain'd, and instructed wholly at his cost. This Gentleman confines his Charity to Heathen Children only.

This Proposal has been recommended to and honoured by Several great Persons in England. Their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales, and the Duke of Cumberland have both favour'd it, and contributed towards it.

Yesterday I had the Honour of a Letter from the Rev^d Dr Ayscough, one of the Prince of Wales's Chaplins, who writes with the greatest goodness with relation to the Design, and not

¹ Missionary to the Indians at Stockbridge, Mass. Died July 27, 1749.

² Thomas Hollis.

without intimations, that such a Proposal may come under the Royal Encouragement & Patronage. For he thinks in point of Policy only, setting aside the consideration of Religion such a projection is worthy the publick notice and encouragement and truly I cant but be of his mind. For while our French neighbours are taking the utmost pains to make the Indians Papists and by that means to attach them to their Interest, certainly it must be an oversight in us to be wholly negligent in endeavouring to proselyte them to our Religion, & fasten them to our Interest.

I have all along proposed in my own mind, if possible, to have some Mohawk Children in this School, to be educated in the manner proposed, and perhaps to bestow on some of them a liberal Education; as there is provision made for that purpose by the Society in Scotland for promoting Christian Knowledge.

Sir I suppose you are as much acquainted with the Mohawks as any man in these parts, and have as much Influence among them as any. Now the principal Design of my giving you this trouble is to bespeak your favour & good Influence in endeavouring to get some of their Children for this purpose; I mean, if you approve the Design, as I do not doubt but you will. The Gentleman that now has the care & Instruction of Mr Hollis' Boys is Mr Martin Kellogg (with whom I suppose you have some acquaintance.) He is known to the Mohawks, and is not altogether a Stranger to their Language: and is every way well qualified for his business. I have had thoughts with him of making a visit to the Mohawks, with the view here mentioned, if you think it worth while. I beg the favour of a Letter from you upon this head, as soon as may be.

Before this reaches you, 'tis probable you will hear that the Indians have killed a man and taken a Lad prisoner, at No 4.¹ The Lad was son to Capt. Phinehas Stephens. I am, Sir,

Your very humble Servant

JOHN SERGEANT

ADDRESSED: For Coll^o. Johnson.

¹ Charlestown, N. H. Four was the number of the township.

FROM JOHN ACKERMAN AND PAUL COMBES¹

Oswego July y^e 7 1749²

HONORED SI.

We have sent you 2 Packs of Bever by Cornelus Deline No 2
81 fl N^o 3 80 fl We have Sume Packs of Skins but Cold have
No oppertunity to Send them but Shall Send by the Next opper-
tunity & there is no Newes at present so no more but al give
Our Humbele Respeckt to your Honour

JN^o ACKERMAN
PAUL COMBES

There is 2 Bare Skins
Belonging to Peter Canine

ADDRESSED: To Coll: Wm Johnson
at Mount Johnson

FROM BENJAMIN STODDERT

A. L. S.

Oswego July y^e. 16th: 1749

DEAR SIR

I am surprised never to have been favoured with a Line from
you since I arrived here not withstanding such frequent Oppor-
tunities; You was so good as to promise to send me some Bread
¶ first Opportunity w^{ch}. I assure you I am now much in want
of as I have not a Pound of that I brought up left, but hope 'ere
this comes to Your hand that you have sent it and also the other
things I wrote to you for w^{ch}. I am also much in want of.

¹ A. L. S. of Ackerman, L. S. of Combes.

² In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:515, 517, are two mentions of
Johnson as custodian of French prisoners delivered up by Indians, the
first in a letter of July 7th from Clinton to the Duke of Bedford, the
second, in a letter of the 7th from Clinton to the Lords of Trade.

Trade here seems to go but Slowly on and their is such a great Quantity of Goods that I believe many of the Traders will be Obligated to live by the Loss and not the Profit of their Summers Works, and also believe that a great many Goods will be Stored here for another Year &c.

I have since I came here wrote to Canada and expect in about Ten Days from this Date at furthest Two Canoes Consigned me, w^{ch}. I have some assurances of their coming by some Canoes that came in from thence this morning, so that I expect they will take a great part of my goods of w^{ch}. I shant be sorry for as I can buy goods here Strouds especially full as Cheap as I can below against my Other Chaps comes tho' shant venture to buy any till after the arrivall of these Canoes w^{ch}. I expect [] shall then know the Quantity of Goods I shall Want

We have no news here but what you'll hear from Capt. Stevens & Van Eps to whom referr You and am with the sincerest Esteem Dear Sir

Your most Humble Serv^t.

B: STODDERT

P: S: You cant Imagine how I vex the Traders sometimes in telling them I am certain that the Trade of this Place will in a Short time be let to a Company and that it will be much to the advantage of the Country to do so w^{ch}: they cant, bear to hear and even go to such lengths as almost Threatens Rebellion; and I really think if it were let to a Company that they would find their account in it and think as their then will be only a Sett of Men here who will go hand in hand together that it will be a great Means of bringg. a great N^o. of the Indians into our Interest; for I am certain that if some such Scheme does not go on that the Trade of this Place will be soon ruined, for their is such a Number of Traders here and such Vile Steps taken to undermine each other in his trade that it consequently cant hold Long; and the little low means used in the Trade to hurt each

other must give even the Savages a Damn'd mean Opinion of us;
especially our Honesty &c

B: S:

ADDRESSED: To Col^o. William Johnson
In his absence To M^r: Robert Adams
at Mount Johnson

¶ favour of
Capt. Stevens.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Captⁿ Stoddards letter
July 1749

FROM PIETER D. SCHUYLER

A. L. S.

[Cannagoharie, July 16, 1749]

COL^o WILLEM JONSON

He[ndrick¹] Indians Desire Mee To let You
[know] the nuws is here in the Castile with Bond of Wanpene
Out of Kanneda that the frence Governur Call all the Indions
to Cannade and that the Sud see Wath mind the Cannagohares

¹ Hendrick, or *Tiyanoga*, a Mohegan in blood, a Mohawk by adoption, is believed to have been born at Westfield, Mass., between 1680 and 1690. His abilities and character procured him extensive influence in the affairs of the Six Nations, and his attachment to the English was of increasing value to the colony of New York. His most notable effort in council was his speech at the Albany congress of 1754, in which he reproached the English for neglect of their Indian allies and failure to guard their territory against encroachment from Canada. In the council of war preceding the battle of Lake George, September 8, 1755, Hendrick advised the despatching of a stronger force in the morning against Baron Dieskau than was detached for that movement. He fell in the first engagement of the day. Hendrick's house was at Indian Castle, in the town of Danube, Herkimer county. Consult William L. Stone, *King Hendrick*, in *Proceedings of the Second Annual Meeting of the New York State Historical Association*, and Nathaniel S. Benton, *A History of Herkimer County*, p. 20-24.

Indens had, and if the Wold not Deliver the Prisners up that
 hee Would take the Soort up to run them of and soo the keep
 all the fithers at home from going to the flathads soo the thinke
 it is not Pace yet, soo they say that the Coll^o¹ must take Care
 of his Castal for You are Mastere over them and []
 say if the see Nikes² then the think [] is Pace, no More
 Sir Your Most Obideend and Humble Servent

PIETER D. SCHUYLER

ADDRESSED: To Coll^o Willim Jonson
 Att Munt Jonson

TO SIR PETER WARREN

A. Df. S.

New York July [22^d?] 24th. 1749

DR UNCLE

I am honoured with yours of the 28th of February last, which
 gave me a most Sensible pleasure being acquainted thereby of
 Y^r Welfare, and all friends there, I am In the same Scituation,
 in regard to my Service & Disbursements for the province, as in
 my last. I have been as Cautious in my Conduct with the dis-
 contented as I possibly Could; they are realy the Majority in
 our Assembly, & I believe are so in all Assemblys upon the Con-
 tinent, and naturally averse as I find to any thing their gover-
 nours do. I haveing acted by Gov^r Clintons orders may be in a
 great measure the occasion of their Delay of payment. I have
 now been [8] 12 Days in town, the Assembly Sitting, in order
 to Sollicitte My Demands; the Chief Justice I have [*not*³] Seen
 [*as yet, tho I constantly frequent the Coffee House he uses*
Morning & Night] once Since I come to town, but Could not
 find him Inclined to do me any Service, or even take much notice
 of me, w^h Surprises me much as I never disoblighd him, or any

¹ Johnson.

² Senecas?

³ Words in italics and within brackets are erased in manuscript.

of the family. I am sorry to say he is the *Primum Mobile* of the Opposition.¹ Yet as you tell me you were so good to write to him Concerning my affairs & in the present Exegency, I should be glad to entreat his Interest, if I had the least reason to believe he was inclined, but I hope Sir You will excuse me when I say I cannot Submitt intirely, I haveing sett out in whatever I have done for the Publick on my own P^{ersonall} Interest, Independant of the Governour, & him too which I can say with out boasting, I have obtained by my fair dealing with the German Settlers & ca up the Mohawks River, who are grown Considerable, & will in time possibly be y^e. majority in the County of Albany, besides my Scituation among the Indians, & integrity to them, made those poor Savages Seek to me, so that I have a Superior Interest with them, which Sort of Interest is the most advantagious to this Province, and to all the Neighbouring, & requires their Cheifest Policy to Cultivate, and Mantain. It is that Interest with y^e. Indians that makes, our Neighbours the French an over match as we have woefully known this War. The Wolfe never Values how many the Sheep are, and it is a very unequal war between us & them; let dog eat dog & Indⁿ fight with Indⁿ. for the tame People of America, notwithstanding all their vaunts are not a Match, the French know it, by dire Experience the war before this; but now (by their own Policy and Management & misconduct of those who some time before the War, had the Care) they have turned the Indians upon Us. We hear Mons^r Jean Care,² a Captⁿ. in the French Navy, is to be Gov^r. Gen^{ll}. of Canada & the present gov^r. there is to be at Louisborough. If you Should Continue to think it agreeable, I Should be glad yⁿ. resided here, for y^r. Countenance would be of great Import to me.

¹ Chief Justice James DeLancey was the head of the opposition to Governor Clinton.

² Marquis de La Jonquière succeeded the Count de La Galissonnière as governor of Canada in 1749.

The difference between his Excell^{cy}. & Chief Justice¹ is yet wider. I am rejoiced to hear that you have repurchased that part of Warrenstown from Rowley. and hope y^u. will meet all freinds well on your Arrivall in Ireland. The Settlements on the Frontiers go on but Slowly. We have our own fears of the French & Indians Yet, they haveing Committed hostilities to the westward on the borders of New England, Since the peace was proclaimed.² I am apt to think that the new Settlers of Nova Scotia will meet with Interruption from the Indians. As to Your own Settlements near me, the Mohawks will defend that [*& me*] I am not afraid of.

The Stone horse performs pritty well. I have Some large Colts by him, but they will not do for y^e. Saddle. I promised to let Mr Oliver DeLancy have him as Soon as I return, he haveing a great desire for him.

I am Sorry to hear there is no prospect of any thing being done for me at home, having all along flattered my Self that my hearty endeavours for his Majesties Service when represented by my freinds, would have been taken Some Notice of, but as there is no further Expectation of it I shall observe Y^r. advice as most wholesome by following my own business which I shall make the Cheif object of my Attention.

I have a letigious Neighbour whose land Joins that of mine, w^h. you have the Deed of, he and I are now beginning a law Suit ab^t. the bounds of S^d. lands, wherefore Shall have occasion for Said Deeds, w^h. Should be glad Sir, You would please to Send me ☞ first opertunity, to prevent his haveing any advantage of me. I Am busy to build me a good Strong Dwelling House in the Mohawks by my Mills, all of Stone. I have purchased one of the best Houses in Albany last Winter, and another in Schenectady, also a very good, low land Clear Farm adjoining to the one I live on. I thank God my Estate begins to increase So that again the time I may have the Happiness of Seeing you.

¹ James DeLancey.

² At Aix-la-Chapelle October 7, 1748, at New York May 12, 1749.



DINING ROOM OF FORT JOHNSON

& Dr. Aunt here I hope to be able to receive, and entertain you tollerably well. I fear I tire y^r. Patience, so beg leave to Conclude with my best respects to y^u. & Dr. Aunt, Love to Dr. little Cousins. Dr. Uncle Y^r Ever Dutifull most Sincere & Affectionate Nephew.

W^m JOHNSON

TO GEORGE CLINTON

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:520-21, is a letter of July 28th from George Clinton to the Lords of Trade in which Johnson's success in preventing a separate peace between the Indians and the French is mentioned; p. 525-26, a letter of August 19th from Johnson to Clinton on the same subject.

MARQUIS DE LA JONQUIÈRE¹ TO BEAUBASSIN

Contemporary Copy

<Aug. 22 1749>

THE MARQUIS DE LA JONQUIÈRE

Chevalier of y^e Royel Order & Militare of <St Louies>
Comador of the Naval Armement; Governour & ye Kings
Lieu<te^{nt}> Generell of all New France Lands and Con-
teries of Missasipie

It is Ordered that M^{ns} Beaubassin,² Insine of the Infantry;
Doth Conduct The Named David Abel, Engelis Presoner as
fare as Sarigtoge; and if hee Jugeth that <Accord>ing to
surcumstances it Nesisarie that he Goeth as fare as Albany; att
which place he is to Continnue³ Untill he shall be sinsebell of y^e
Determination of the Governour Genirell of New England were

¹ Pierre-Jacques de Taffanel, Marquis de La Jonquière, governor of Canada, 1749-52.

² Hertel de Beaubassin. See Johnson's letter of September 1st to Clinton and La Jonquière's of August 22d to Clinton, *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:526-27.

³ September 8th Governor Clinton communicated to the Council "a Letter from Collo Johnson of the 1st Instant, acquainting his Excellency that on the 31st Ult^o Mr Beaubassin with three French attendants and David Abeel arrived at Albany, and that he sent Mr Beaubassin and his three attendants back, so soon as they refreshed themselves."—Council Minutes, 21:361.

he is to take on him the Charge of Our french Presoners to Bring them bak into the Colonie & in Case the sending of our said Presoners is not Ordered. it is Ordered to the said Mon^r DeBoubassin to Bring bak the said Abel at the End of the Term which wee have Gevin him. Bagging the Governour & Com-mending Engenglish Officers to Admit the said Mis^r Baubassin, and to Give him help and Assistance,

Don att Quebec y^e 22th of August 1749

Sined LAIONQUIERE.

Par Monseigneur Sant Sauveure Secretarie

FROM CHARLES LEWIS REILY

A. L. S.

Goshen in Orange County August y^e. 24th: 1749

DOMINE

Adducar ut credam te interesse doctos, hac causa hoc more Scribo, nuncio tuo misso Carolo Clinton Armigero decorabar, Responsoque, notum facio atque tibi affirmo ut gratia amicitiae egregiae subsistitur inter nostros Parentes, atque respectus teneo ulli ducenti originem a Patre tuo Domino Christophero Johnston habitante prope Dunshaghlin, ut magnopere gauderem si capax essem benefacere aut utilem esse tibi qua in re; — Interim Domine me dolet, ut, etsi, cupidus sim honorem familiaritatis tenendi tecum, tamen res nunc sic collocantur ut me non Sinunt uti ceremoniis assuetis bonorum morum Visendi sola gratia visitationis, Nihilominus maxime voluptati mihi semper erit de valetudine tua audire, ob praedictas causas, quanto (ut Solitus es) Decori atque honori esse Patriae nostrae, & pro Viribus congratulor¹

Eruditio juvenum nunc tempus consumit meum, Loco nomine Goshen, a quo licet mihi destituere termino Singulae quartae partis anni, adeo foederis articuli sunt, Octo Septimanae ab hoc tempore terminabunt postrema pacta hoc in loco, enim pactionem

¹Faded.

feci hiscum antequam ex te audiui Domino Clinton, aut ullo altero Sin aliter cum fama tua me meas venit ad aures, optato potireris visendo (His ita promissis) Si tibi conveniret, ut viserem te termino Septem aut octo Septimanarum, Significes Sententias mihi epistolis quam cite & convenienter ut poteris, & attendam tibi maxima cum Voluptate & alacritate; mittas Jussa mihi litteras dirigendo aut Domino Johanni Colden habitanti Albaniae aut Fratri Allexandri Colden Duci habitanti Newburgh hoc in ruri — uterlibet eorum industrie litteras tuas promovebunt; tanto quanto epistolas tuas acciperem citius gauderem, ex qua causa agam, eoque res Sic disponam ut Jussu adsim tibi illico, quousque maneo humilem Servum, aeque ac amantem compatriotam

CHARLES LEWIS REILY

P. S.

Soror tua nupta fuit meo condiscipulo Gulielmo Fitzsymons filio Petri Fitzsymons Mercatoris Athboy, Frater meus erat pronubo fratri tuo; Pater, Frater tuus atque Sorores valebant cum Vela Dedi ventis.

Salus meo nomine detur Roberto Adams, Jacobo Rogers Petro Crotty & Erwin, omnibusque alteris hibernicis in illo loco. N. B. Pactionem alteram haud faciam, donec consilia tua meas pervenient ad aures, Efflagitoque, ut quam Cito poteris mihi nota sint. Gratias Deo, Varias artes excolere possum tales aedificationes omnium generum vehiculorum, et Lucro & Voluptati, ad hoc multa altera quibuscum Solitudine memet recreo; tunc deinde Siquando fatigatus essem, canendo variis musicis intrumentis, nunc tibiis Utricularibus nunc fistula germanica, tunc Sambuca, tum Cithara Minore aliis cum quo ¹ recreativa mihi Sunt animum remitto.

P. S. I shall greatly rejoice to be honour'd by a letter from y^u, if y^u think convenient So to doe y^u may direct to me as affors^d, or to y^e Care of the Honourable Cadwallader Colden at Col-dengham in y^e Highlands or any other proper way y^u. think, The Sooner y^u acquaint me of y^r Desire the better for I couldn't

¹ Word covered by seal.

understand y^r intentions by Mr Clinton or by James McCloghery,
If y^u think Convenient when I goe up I'll Carry Some tools with
me to make y^u: a Four wheeld Chair or any Other pleasure
carriage y^u please; Banaght Lath gu. veke, meh, hu,¹

I Send this Letter to Captain Ross to forward to y^u.
Goshen August y^e. 24th: 1749

I'll also if y^u
please bring with me
all my musical instru-
ments Fiddle German
flute Hautboy & Bagpipes

ADDRESSED: To
Collonel
William Johnston
at his house
at y^e: Mohawk Castle

Translation

SIR

I should be led to believe that men of learning interest you. On this account I write in this manner. I was honored by your message sent to Charles Clinton Esquire; and, in response, inform and assure you that the pleasure of a rare friendship exists between our parents, and I have a regard for anyone who is descended from your father, Mr Christopher Johnson, who lives near Dunshaghlin; that I should greatly rejoice if I were capable of serving or being useful to you in any way.

Meanwhile, sir, I regret that, though I crave the honor of familiar acquaintance with you, still circumstances are such that they do not permit me to follow the accustomed usage of good manners of coming to see you for the sole purpose of visiting. Nevertheless, it will always be especially pleasant to me to hear of your health, for the reasons mentioned, and how (as you are wont to do) you adorn and honor our country, and I congratulate² you on your abilities.

¹ Gaelic for: A blessing to you until I see you.

² Faded.

The teaching of youth now consumes my time, at a place named Goshen, which I have the privilege of leaving at the end of a quarter; so the articles of agreement provide. Eight weeks from this time will end the contract in this place, for I made my agreement with these people before I heard from you, Mr Clinton or anyone else. But if, however, since your fame has come to my ears, you would enjoy the desired visit (as it is promised), if it would suit you that I should visit you at the end of seven or eight weeks, signify your wishes to me by letter as quickly as you conveniently can, and I shall attend you with the greatest pleasure and promptness. Send your commands to me, addressing your letter either to Mr John Colden, residing at Albany, or his brother, Alexander Colden, a leading resident of Newburgh in this region — either one of them will readily forward your letter. The sooner I received your letter the more delighted I should be, and on that ground I shall act, so disposing matters as to be with you at once on your direction. Till that time I remain

Your humble Servant
and affectionate compatriot
CHARLES LEWIS REILY

P. S. Your sister was married to my school fellow, William Fitzsymons, a merchant at Athboy. My brother was best man to your brother. Your father, brother and sisters were well when I sailed.

Give my respects to Robert Adams, James Rogers, Peter Crotty & Erwin and all other Irishmen in that place.

N. B.

I shall not make a new agreement until your opinion reaches me; and I beg that it be made known to me as soon as may be. Thank Heaven! I am able to practise various arts, such as the construction of all kinds of carriages, both for gain and pleasure; in addition, many other things with which I amuse myself in solitude; then again, if at any time fatigued, with playing various musical instruments, now the bagpipes, now the German flute, then the hautboy, then the violin — with other things when, as I engage in recreation, I relax my mind.

A RETURN OF MILITIA

Return of First Battalion, Albany County Militia

[August 1749?]

Return of the first Betellion

Jan Winne Lu^t.

17 Private Men

John [glen?] of the Troop Lu^t:

33 Men

Sam^l. Pruyne Ensign

26 Private Men

Hen^d: Roseboom Lu^t:

49

Jeremia Hogeboom Cap^t52 private D^o.John Van Hoesen Lu^t:24 Private D^o.Andris Witbeeck Lu^t:51 Private D^o.Jacob Halenbeeck Lu^t.

26

Hen^d. Hoghtelingh Lu^t:

26

Ab: Van Arenam Cap^t:Hen^d: Lansing Lu^t:Joh^s: Lansing Lu^t:22 Privet D^o.Dirck Van Der Heyden Lu^t:

13 privet

TO GEORGE CLINTON

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:525-26, is a letter (see above p. 241) from Johnson, at Albany, to George Clinton, acquainting him with his success in keeping the Indians away from Quebec and a priest out of the Indian country; p. 526-27, a letter of September 1st from Johnson, at Albany, to Clinton, concerning a party of Frenchmen that has arrived in this city.

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

L. S.¹

Fort George Sept 7th 1749

S^r

Yours of 19th August I received & another of the 1st Instant ☞ Mr Abeel, both which I should have answered sooner, but on being out on a party upon the water, was detained by contrary Winds till last tuesday evening. I am glad the Indians were in my opinion, as to sending but a part of the Prisoners in order to secure the release of all our Prisoners as well Indians as Christians in Canada. I would have you make a proper use of the Copy of the Gov^r of Canada's Letter to me, and assure them they will have all their Bretheren set at Liberty now, that are in his Government, one of them being dead; and that entirely through my Interest, & the concern I have for them and shall allways have.

I approve much of the Conference you had with the Oneidas, at the seperate meeting with them, as also of preventing the Priest settling near them, and of your sending back Beaubassin with his attendants. I think you judged very right as to that part of Mr Saunders's Instructions. it was in my mind to have wrote to you to have done just as you have, but I forgot that part, & am very glad you did it; Your reasons for not sending any Indian with the Party merit much my approbation. As to the French Letter from the Engineer at Niagara. I shall lay it before the Council to morrow, and at the same time shall be very particular

¹ Postscript by Clinton.

to explode Collins's Brother in Law's baseness in refusing to give Mr Saunders a sight of the Articles of Peace, though it was in order to get his fellow Creatures out of Captivity, and have their Opinion it I can do any thing to him, for so unheard of piece of Barbarity, and will communicate the Result of it from the Council to you ^{at} first opportunity. The Doctor sent you up a Receipt for £200 ^{at} Vandler, you will see by the enclosed Paragraph the Grub street Wit of your Albany Gentry. I am Sr

your assured Friend and very humble Servant

G CLINTON

TO COLL JOHNSON

Some of y^e Members has been at Peters Since¹
down here to tell him he is a Fool for sending so much Provision to Oswego for they will allow for no more t¹ 25 Men, but as I think I am ye best judge if they dont allow him for y^e whole it shall cost the Province Dear for my Speaking half a Word I can gett the Companys removed where they will be more acceptable & it will cost them a fine Sum to hire Soldiers to Garrison Oswego &c which they must do then, & thank themselves for ye heavy expence it will bring upon ye Province, All friends expres their Compliments & hope you are well Adieu

G. C.

FROM CADWALLADER COLDEN

A. L. S.

Coldenham Sept^r 8th 2 1749

S^r

As M^r Reily³ designs to wait on you I could not let such an opportunity slip without making my complements to you & desir-

¹ Manuscript torn.

² In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:524-25, is a letter of September 24th from George Clinton to the Lords of Trade and p. 537-38, a letter of the 23d from John Lindsay to George Clinton, in which Johnson is mentioned.

³ See Reily to Johnson, August 24, 1749.

ing the favour of knowing at his return of your health & prosperity, And more particularly how your Embassy to Canada has succeeded, Whether you have engaged persons to your own liking to go I hope your Ennemies will be disapointed by the success that affair will have If it succeed according to my wish their mouths must for ever after be stopt if any thing can stop such wide mouths I hear of no kind of News I am with very great esteem & regard S^r

Your obedient humble Servant

CADWALLADER COLDEN

ADDRESSED: To Coll William Johnson
at his Seat in the
County of Albany

FROM JAMES J. ROSS

L. S.

New York Sept 25th 1749

S^r

I Rec^d Your letter dated of this Instant & y^e letters Inclos'd which I delivered to the Gentleman I have sent you by Cap^t Donbreek 9 Gallons of Linceed oyl at 11^s & 6^d p^r Gallon likewise Your Pictor, fiddlebow; & Arm Chair which Cost £8 0^s 0^d I have likewise sent you by the old woman 300 ^{Ct} Limes Mr Scotts Vessell sails for England in a few days the old woman is here & the Children is all well & desires that their Dutys may be Excepted by you there is no strange news worth mentioning to you so Conclude S^r

Y^r Friend & Humble Serv^t

JAMES J ROSS

P S

S^r

I wish you a Great deal of joy of y^r purchase from Jos Clement & am Glad you've Got Rid on so bad a Neighbour & hope You'll take a little pains to drive all of his sort out of that place and Plant Christians in their places, Pray send me an

account of whole Bottles you Rec^d because I agreed to pay the man for them as you Rec^d them whole there therefore desire you to send me word by the first opportunity

This Minute I Rec^d Your Letters by Mr. Miller I've been with Mr^s Scott & she will Give the Germans three Years to pay their Monny You being security for them & she will send the Bonds to be Signed by You by the Next sloop

As Pr y^e Leather 'tis not sold Yett, only a small matter att 4^s/4^d as Pr the Beaver itt was allmost sold before You whent up, only a Little & that is Bad they sell itt in town att 7^s-3^d & 7-6 itt being very scarce if you send any down send about 30 or 40 fl in a pack & itt will sell much better Pr large packe dont sell so well

Sr Your frend and Humbl Servant

JAMES J ROSS

I shall not forgett my
Cosin that Indon treador and
Will Shew him his ambition

ADDRESSED: To Coll^{ll} W^m Johnson
of Mount Johnson Albany County

FROM SAMUEL AND WILLIAM BAKER ¹

☞ Cap^t. Knox

London 12. Octor. 1749

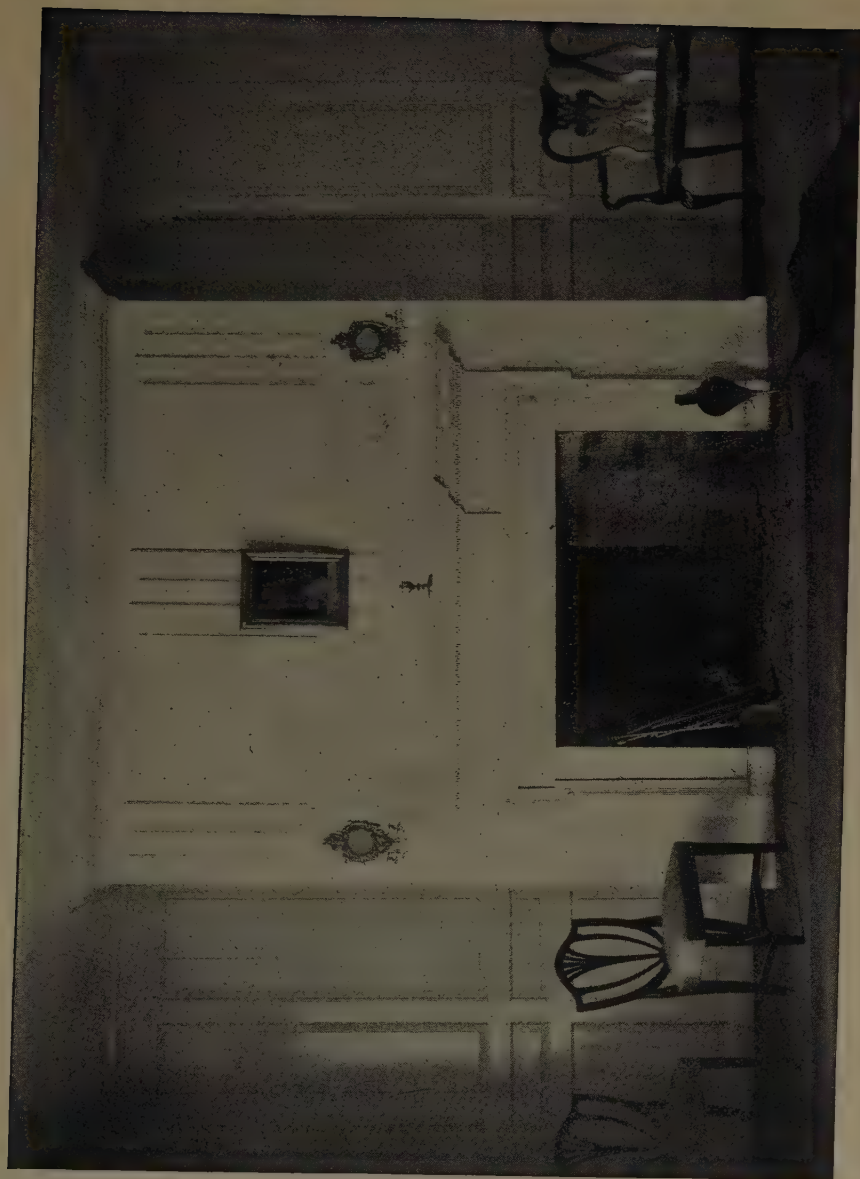
Copy.

COL^o. WILLIAM JOHNSON:

SIR:

We have before us your Letter of 24 July last. We have landed your Peltry out of the Dover, Cap^t. Waddell. we have sold the Beavor at 4/ ☞ fl as we find from your advices more is likely to be soon Expected & therefore we did not choose to wait.

¹ Copy inclosed in S. and W. Baker to Johnson, January 22, 1749/50, q. v.



LIVING ROOM OF FORT JOHNSON

Your Bills & Certificate notwithstanding your Governors Assurances are in the same neglected situation as at first, nay less taken notice of than at that time. We have been very frequent in our applications but to no purpose. Its strange your Governor who has so much Interest here does not Exert it to the saving his own credit. we have already advised you that we paid Mr. Catherwood's order for the money you mention. We have at length got your Blankets finished & with the other thing you wrote for, we shall send them by the return of the Dover Cap^t. Waddell. Inclosed you have three Acc^t. Sales, Viz^t. of 5 hh^{ds}. & 1 Bundle of Skins & Furrs Rec^d. by the Antelope, Cap^t. Amory, Netting £367. 11. 3., of 2 hhds & 1 Bundle of Skins & Furrs rec^d. by the Samuel & Judith, Cap^t. Griffiths, Netting £170. 16. —. and of 2 hhds. of Furrs rec^d. by the Neptune, Cap^t. Knox netting £156. 16. 2. in which three Sums you are Credited.

We are,

<SAM & WM. BAKER>

FROM ANTHONY VAN SCHAICK

A. L. S.

Quebec Oct 14th 1749

May It Your honnour

SIR

I Do my self the honnour with this Occasion to present you with these [few?] lines I Did Not think to trouble your honnour with my Letter But the Criticcality of this affair Obliges me to it, our Indians who are prisoners here knowing that your honnour has sent cloathing for them and Being But very Indifferently clad they ask of me to give them the Blankets which you have sent for them I must think They Stand in great need of them, but Still I Cannot give them without the Orders from your honnor, therefore I Beseech the Sir to write to me with the first Oppertunity (which I think Shall Be with the frenchman that is gone to Boston) Concerning this affair, there is in Mountreyal three or four nations of our Indians But the General Sent up word with

Bobasin that they Should Spare the trouble to come Down Because of the Incommodity of the weather But that he would have them to come Down in the Spring and I think they will come Down at that time and it may Be th¹ him he will Give up the Indian prisoners to them therefore let the Exchange Be made as Soon as possible. All our people that Is here is capable to march as well in winter as in Summer. But Be sure of the Exchange Before the french prisoners go up out of our contry, the Governour told me that Repentier had told him that the Assembly of new york would not Reimburse the money which your honnour had paid for the prisoners which where among Our Indians and therefore you would not let the prisoners go But Mr perthui was present And he told the Governour Mr Johnson is a notable Gentleman and he has wrote me a letter wherein he marks that he has all the french prisoners redy to Send But he waits only to make an Exchange there and Some more words which are not worth mentioning at last the Governour said that when his Enterpriter Should Come Back that he would make an end of it. I think that If Mr prethui had Been with Mr Sanders the affair would not have Been [overset?] as he told me Several times Since and was very Sorrow for it, I Beseech your honnour to Let my cosin David Abeel come along If there comes another flag of truce, So after my humble Duties to your honnour I Remain your very humble and very Obedient Servant

ANTHONY² V: SCHAICK

FROM JOHN H. LYDIUS

A. L. S.

Sunday 12 aClock Octor 29th 1749

COLL^{LL} JOHNSON

Yours of Jesterday I Receved Just now as I observed to You of Cap^t. Winnie he is Gon and their Remaned Wilhalmus Van Antwerp Jesteray I Offered Him 20/ to Delay untill this

¹ Manuscript torn.

² Manuscript torn. Name supplied.

time as I Expected to Hear from Your self Concerning Your Going Down But as He Chose not to Tary it is so much saved We have now sloop before the City and I hear from Nown Except Hogin of Going Down again, and he is but Lately Gon Down; but as they Cume up I shall One After the Other Indaver to Perswad them to Make Another Trip and Wen one shall Take Care to Advis You of it in Due Time.

Major Clark wass hear Jesterday Very umpatient to Know the Accounts of y^e Men that Came from swegen in order to settel with them he Expected You had sent them Down

I have Hear the French boy that Lived att Kingekoss He Wass Lost in the Woods some time A Goo and is now hear he wass out of his had wen he first Came but is Now Quite Recovered I shall Keep him hear for Goo and All if you Aprove of it or send Him were You shall Direct

I seen Mr sender Just Now and acquainted him watt You Rit. it shall be Ready by the Time ther will be a sloop: the members are Not Gon Down thay Expect sirculer Letters before thay Intend to Goo

We Had Jesterday a Report Via Kinderhok that a Vessel wass arived from England but to Day Contradicted

My Compliments too the Gentelmen with you and Accept the same from my Wife & self I Remain Yours to Command

JOHN H: LYDIUS

ADDRESSED: To Coll.^{ll}. Will^m. Johnson
att Mount Johnson

FROM GERMAINS VITRY

A. L. S.

[October 29, 1749¹]

MONSIEUE ET CHERRE PERRE

Permettez que je me fasse lhonneue de vous Ecrire Cett ligne, pour vous assurée de mes tres humble Respect Et en meme tems pour vous Remerciee Généralement de toutes les Bontee que vous

¹ Date supplied from Johnson Calendar.

avez Eut pour mes fille Ce que je ne Scayce journellement de
pensée à votre Bontee de meme quangelique quy ne puis vous
Oubliee duns Seul moment ainsie que Catiche qui vous Embrasse
Et votre petite angelique lesquels toutes deux Ce Recommande
à toutes vos Bontee A laquels ils Esperre Pareillement que moy
Monsieue quy vous Embrasse Pareillement que Catrine Et
Catiche vous obligeree Monsieue Et Perre

Votre Serviteue
GERMAINS VITRY

ADDRESSED: A Monsieue
Monsieu Jeanson
Orange

Translation

SIR AND DEAR FATHER:

Permit me to do myself the honor of writing you this line, to assure you of my very humble respect and at the same time to thank you generally for all your kindness to my daughters. The fact is I never cease to think of your kindness as does Angelique, who cannot forget you for a single moment, as also Catiche, who greets you, together with your little Angelique. Both of them commend themselves to your kindness which they hope for, as well as I, sir, who greet you, the same as Catrine and Catiche. Thereby you will oblige, Sir and Father.

Your servant
GERMAINS VITRY

ADDRESSED: To
Mr Johnson
Albany

FROM LE CHEVALIER DE ST LEGER

A. L. S.

City [Hall, New York]

S^R.

So many goodness's you have Show'd, and do every-day to the French that come in your Country, obliges me to take the

Liberty to Send you these lines; I will not pretend to give you an acco^t. of my affair it is too tedious; I don't doubt but you have Seen it in the News Paper where I had a just and true Idea of it printed. You might have Seen that it is very hard for a Cap^t. of the King of France, and a Person of Condition to fin[d] himself in the hard Situation he is at Pres[ent] I should be Infinitely obliged to you to [] it to his Excellency Governor Clinton; Perhap[s] [] might do Something for me, by Speaking to [] that keeps me here, in expectation of that []

I am with Due respect Sir

Your []

LE CHE[]

FROM ANTHONY VAN SCHAICK¹

A. L. S.

[1749?]

May it please Your Honour

SIR

Having had the Honour to Confer with his Excellency Le marquis De La jonquaire and obtained the permission of this occasion I give my self the Honour to present your honour with these few lines in Order to renew your honour the Situation I am In. I know your honour is not Ignorant of the Situation of a prisoner of war therefore I Desire your Honour to use the utmost of your endavours to procure me my Liberty with all these poor prisoners that are here with me for we are incapable to render any Service to our Selves or to our Contry Since we are in this Contry if we were of any Service here to our king or Contry with Suffering we would not Begrudg it But we lose our precious time in vain and have nither the Satisfaction of our Selves nor nothing else therefore we think we do more Service home then we do here

¹Captain Anthony Van Schaick was released June 27, 1750, *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 10:214.

Therefore I Desire your honour to be pleased to procure us our Redemption if possible God knows if I can render any Service to my king or contry I will Be always ready the Indian are gone amongst the tienondedies about 3 Leagues from this town where they Shall Stay till the French prsoners come Back from our Contry I shall allways remain

Your honours very humble and very Obedient Servant

ANTHONY VAN SCHAICK

<I am very honorably traited at present. his Excell has Been pleased> To put me in pension <in the town provided that> I gave my word of honour not to <Leave the> town without his Excellencies permission. I have the honour to know a French Gentleman here who is named Mr Perthuis who renders a great Deal of Service to the English prisoners and has Done Since he has had the care of them During this war.

May It Please your honour I Am With All Respect

Your very humble and very Obedient Servant

ANTHONY VAN SCHAICK

ADDRESSED: <To the Honourable Coll William Johnson, att fort Johnson these with care to Charge Lindsay with £11-odd for Ab^m Lansing promised to pay him next October>

FROM AND TO GEORGE CLINTON

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:533-34, is a letter of November 22d from Governor Clinton to the Duke of Bedford in which Johnson's claim, "upwards of £5000," against the government is stated. Of the same date is Johnson's letter to Clinton, written in New York, considering the right policy with Indians and his need of an Indian fund.

FROM JOHN JOHNSON

A. L. S.

*Dublin January y^e 13th 1749[/50]*D^r. BROTHER

I Expected long ere now to have the pleasure of a letter from you I saw a letter from silvester Farrall giveing an account that he has arrived with you and the great Expectation he is in of mending his tottered fortune by your means, he is gon off from this Country to the prejudices of a great many with whom he has run greatly indebted peticularly with our father who has suffered by him alredy above one hundred pounds besides that when he took to be factor for Aldⁿ. Thomas Cook who hath great Comishons from English merchants here to sell Corn flower and Malt and wanting a factor to manage them affairs for him Silvester Farrall sollisted for that Employment of which he was very Capable, the Aldⁿ. gave him the Employment upon condission he gave him sufficien security by Bond and unfortunately my father was over persuaded to become one of his security accordingly my father & Joⁿ. Farrall his father since dead one Cavanaugh a Malster and Joⁿ. Fitsgerrald his own brother in law with silvester became bound to the Alderman by obligation in a larg sum of money to the Alderⁿ. with condission there under written of the said Silvesters faithfull and honest beheaviour in that Employment being oblidged to receive most of the money and acc^t. for the same with the Aldⁿ. not only greatly in debt with the Aldⁿ. but likewise with several ot[hers] to their great prejudice at last broke and went off and we understand he is gone to you Alderⁿ. Cook sense his going off hath furnished an Acc^t. of what Silvester was indebted to him by which it appears Silvester owed him modestly fivety six pounds and the Aldⁿ. is now suing my father for that intire sum by which means my father is likely to suffer near £200 by him this is the fearest acct I can give you of Silvester therefore we should be glad he was put in a way of doeing for himself in expectation he might be enabled to clear of the debts he owes so would advise you to beware how you let him have the handling of your money it is reported here

he took a good deal of money with him but it is most certain he left his wife in a very good Condission again I must advise you to beware of him yet we should be glad you Could help him without prejudice to your selfe on the Expectation above mentioned.

Sr Peter Warren has purchased that part of Warrens town that Rowley had and is now in possession of it and hath lately purchased to very fine town lands from the Barron of Galtrum for which he is to give £6000 and odd pounds for he has been pleased to appoint me his receiver not only for what he has already purchased but for what he may hereafter purchased in which station I shall endeavour to make it my Cheifest studdy to keep up to the great duty we all owe to so good an Unckle in which station I Expect not only very good [] my Country but also an improvement in my fortune [] must now acquaint you we are all greatly rejoiced at the plenty full fortune our Unckle has placed you in I must now also acquaint you what great concerns my poor old father is under for not hearing from you often he is like one reaving at your remissnes in Corresponding with him he seems realy to be doteing on you above all his Children for in all his discourses about you the usually end in tears and he is greatly surprized that silvester Farralls letter should so soon Come to his frends here and none from you to him and hopes it is not affluence of your fortune makes you forget him and hopes [] will put you in mind not to be forgetfull for the future of so good and indulgent a father, my Bro: Warren is With his Company at Wexford and is very well Sr. Peter takes notice in his letters that he hopes Warry will prove a good man I am of opinion he does not want for good spirit or Courage, I must now acquaint you of my own affections for you which I assure you are Very Strong and could wish to hear often from you all here Joyns in their love and respects to you

Dr Brother I am

your ever aff^{te} Bro:

JO^N. JOHNSON

TO GEORGE CLINTON

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:546-47, are two letters, of January 6th and 22d, from Johnson to George Clinton, one dealing with French activities among the Indians, the other with the need of releasing Indian children held by traders, and of bringing about a peace between the Catawbas and the Six Nations.

FROM SAMUEL AND WILLIAM BAKER

A. L. S.

London 22 Jan. 1749/50.

COL^o. WILLIAM JOHNSON

SIR

Agreable to what preceeds¹ we now hand you an Inv^o. of a bale of Blankets made to your pattern the amount £23. 7. 9. is Carried to your Debit in Account Currant, also you have an Inv^o. of goods we have sent agreeable to your order marked R A the amount of which being £87. 0. 5. is also past to your Debit. We wish we could have met with an earlier opportunity of sending them, but this ship, the Dover, Cap^t Waddell, is the first that has gone since the goods were ready.

The 5 Instant we recd your Favour of the 24 November, We have landed the peltry out of the Nebuchadnezzar, Cap^t Cornée, in good condition. We hold your Beavor at 4/6^d ₤ 11 but whether we shall get so much we cannot say however we think we can't fail of 4/3 or 4/4^d. ₤ 11. Your furs are not yet sorted but we think will sell pretty well. Deerskins are still very dull commodity; we observe we are to have a further consignment by the Joseph, Cap^t W^m Bryant. We hope soon to see her here.

We have put the goods in hand which you ordered & shall be sent you by the first good opportunity, the Strouds we have bought we hope will prove as good as those sent you last Spring, but not at all Cheaper. We cannot be exact as to the quality or price till they come from Dying, which must be some time, first

¹ Letter from S. and W. Baker of October 12th, 1749 (*q. v.*), is on the same manuscript sheet as this.

we cannot send you the Account Sales of what received by Waddell because we have not yet adjusted the freight.

We are told that your Governors bills & Certificates will be discharged soon. Mr. Shirley has been here Some months settling his Accounts, which when done, is, they say, to be followed by a Settlement of Mr Clinton's Accounts, & then an estimate & demand is to be made for the parliament. We did the needful with your letters.

We are Sr

Your most humble Serv^t

SAM^L & W^M BAKER

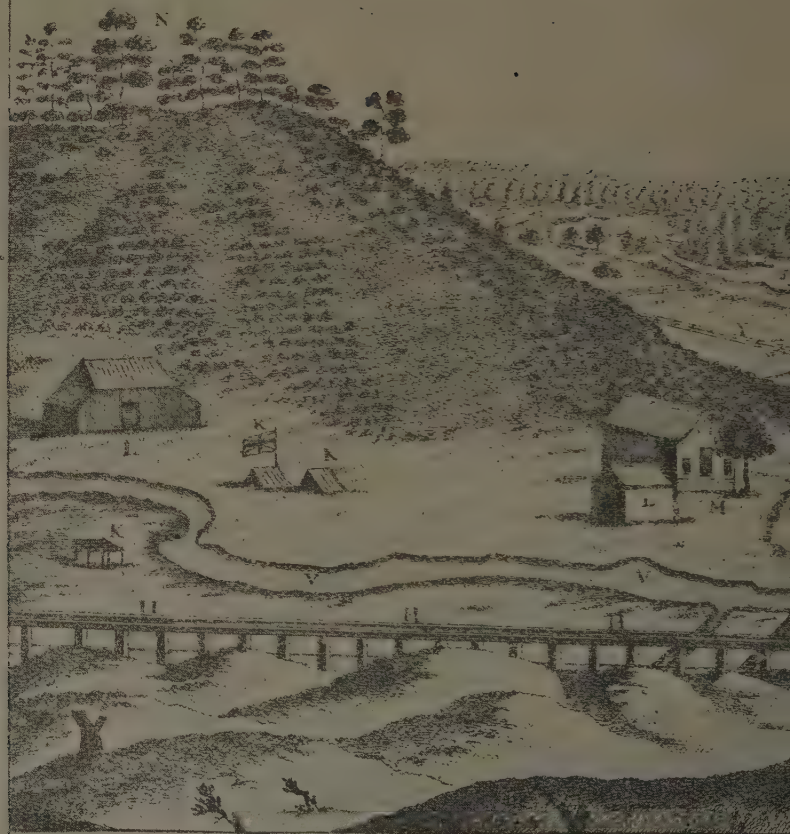
TO GEORGE CLINTON

Df.

<M^t Johnson Jan^y 22^d 1749/50>

May it please y^r Excell^{cy}

I am honoured wth yours of the 6th. Inst. by the post together wth. a Letter to the Govern^r of Canada w^h. I shall take care to forward by Captⁿ Stoddert & give him the properest Instructions I am capable of, for the Speedy recovery of our People there, & particularly the 4 Ind^s who are now two years & Eight Months there. An Age indeed, for such people who were never used to any Confinement & as nothing but their Steadfastness to the British Interest, could have caused the french to detain them so long. I think they ought to meet with a reception (att their return) Adequate to their Merit, w^h I am sorry is not in my power to give them, as they will look to me & no Body Else for it. As for the Affidavits against Collins, I realy had not time to gett them, being much hurryed Since I came home wth Moveing into my New House &ca. but by the next Post shall transmit them to y^r Excell^{cy} I am verry glad y^r Excell^{cy} has given orders, to have the Indⁿ Children returned w^h are kept by the Traders, as pawns, or pledges, but I cant find that Mr^s Abeel, who has a Seneca Child, or Vandreisen who has got a Mississagey, are to deliver theirs w^h I am apprehensive will cause great disturbance. As to the Girl Lieut Lindsay bought, or the Boy w^h was made



A North View of Fort Johnson drawn

EXPLANATION

A—The house, or Fort Johnson. B—The wall and ramparts. C—The block-house in the
bake-house. F—A pigeon-house. G—The mill. H—An aqueduct from the mill-dams to the mi
built there. M—A very large barn and stables. N—Mount Johnson, very high and steep. O—
Q—The Mohock river. R—Part of an island opposite to the fort, 100 acres. S—Thirteen
V—A fine creek that runs by the fort into the river. W—A garden. X—Fine pastures. Y—Co
[NOTE: Guy Johnson was not Sir William's son. He was his son-in-law. For a description
New York, 1:209; Border Wars, p. 114.]



By W. Guy Johnson & Sir W. Johnson's Son

VIEW
and barracks that flank the gate; the same on the other side. D—Cooper's house. E—The
council-house. K—Indian encampments. L—A sheep-house; but now there is a block-house
Sir William Johnson lived before [he moved (Jan., 1749-50) into A.] P—The barn for ditto.
ing to Sir William Johnson. T—Another block-house, to defend the back of the house.
oad to Schenectady.
7, see *Doc. Hist. of New York*, 1:532; in 1844 and 1846, see J. R. Simms, *The Frontiersmen of*

him a present, is quite a different thing, as they were prisoners of War taken by the Ottawawees from Other Nations of the Flatt-heads whom they always dispose of at pleasure, & have done it every year since Oswego has been frequented by us.¹ The French likewise buy them daily, but those w^h the Traders took as pledges, or rather stole from them, (as the parents came att the appointed time to redeem them, but they sent them away before hand) were Children of our friends, & Allies, & if they be not all returned next spring it will confirm w^t the french told the Six <Nations Viz^t that we looked> upon them as our Slaves, or Negroes, w^h <affair gave me a great deal of trouble> att that time to reconcile. I must acquaint Y^r Excell^y that most <of the Ind^s> of both the Mohawk Castles are determined (in a very short time) <to go to> War against the Cataba's, & are to be Joined by great Numbers of <their> Brethren, as also by severall other Nations. I have for this time past, Kept them from that Vile practice, notwithstanding the french used all their Endeavours to sett them on but as affairs are Circumstanced at present, it is out of my Power to Attempt it. however I must humbly represent to y^r Excell^{cy} that the bringing about a peace between y^m Ind^s. & ours, would be a thing of great Importance, & the only way in my humble opinion to Effect it would be, to get about half a Dozen of the Cheifs of that tribe, or nation, to come here, & desire a peace wth the Six Nations, w^h I flatter myself I could perswade them to Agree to. The best time would be when Y^r Excell^{cy} was here, & have it done in y^r Presence. I hope Sir you'l Pardon me for makeing free to give you my Sentiments thereon. there is the Pay of the Smiths who were sent by y^r Excell^{cy}'s orders among the five Nations, due for two years past, w^h they daily plague me for. I hope y^r Excell^{cy}. will please to recommend the payment thereof to the Assembly when they meet next as also Interest for the time they kept me out of my Money. Disbursed for the Service of the Province at the Risque of my life & fortune, & at a time when none Else dare would dare to undertake it, I think there cannot be a juster

¹ See *Slavery in New York*, by A. Judd Northrup, p. 304-10.

demand made, moreover they must be all sensible that it has been a great loss to me in my way of Business, The Oneida Sachems were wth me last Week earnestly desiring thy might be allowed a Smith among them. I told them I would Acquaint your Excell^{cy}. of it, & let them know y^r answer soon. there is but one Smith this Winter among the five Nations, & y^t is at the Seneca's, who pressed very hard for it. I agreed wth him for £70 but he writes me last Week y^t he was obliged to make presents to the Chiefs to the Value of ab^t £12 w^h he hopes the Assembly will allow, as it has been Usual. I hope y^r Excell^{cy} will not forget to have the Militia Act revived next meeting of <the Assembly, otherwise it> is better have none, for if they <will not make Strict Acts in that> Case there can be no Command, & <I think in> this part above any, the Militia should be well discip<lined,> & Regular. Submitting the whole to y^r Excell^{cy}'. Superiour Consideration. I conclude wth. the greatest respect Imaginable Your Excell^{cy}'s.

Most Obedient Humble Servant

To GOV^R CLINTON

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Gov^r. Clintons Letter
January 22^d.

1749/50

Coppy of a Letter
to Gov^r. Clinton.

THOMAS HUTCHINSON TO JOHN H. LYDIUS¹

Boston, Febr. 9th 1749/50

S^r.

Governor Shirley advises of y^e: 28th November that he is appointed one of y^e: Commissioners for settling y^e. Boundary between us & the French² and he Desires me to Procure him all

¹ Copy by Lydius inclosed in Lydius to Johnson, March 18, 1749/50, q. v.

² William Mildmay was the associate British commissioner. The French commissioners were Marquis de La Galissonnière and Étienne de Silhouette.

the Information I Can. I think we were furnish'd pretty well before so far as Respects y^e Coasts of Accady & Nova Scotia but with regard to Crown Point the Country of y^e: Iroquois & those Parts I am afraid we are too much in y^e Dark. Immediately on Receving his Letter I Determind to write to you as the most Likely Person to enlighten us And I intreat you to send me an Account of all the Evidence you Can p¹ or of any Historical Facts that may point¹ to be found elsewhere & you shall have the full Credit of them with the Commissioners Though I know you need no other inducement than the Publick service.

Pray write under Cover of any Gentelemen in the County of Hampshire & Desire him to forward it to me with all possible Speed. & Bleave me &c.

THO^s HUTCHINSON²

I Receved it y^e. 13th March³

ADDRESSED: To Coll^{ll} Will^m Johnson

att

Mount Johnson

¹ Manuscript torn.

² Thomas Hutchinson was born in Boston, September 9, 1711, and died in Brompton, England, June 3, 1780. He was a graduate of Harvard College, studied law and entered politics. He was a representative in the general court of Massachusetts for ten years, serving three terms as speaker; and distinguished himself by opposition to paper money schemes. He became a member of the council, lieutenant governor, chief justice and governor, besides serving the colony as a member of the Massachusetts and New Hampshire boundary commission, the Massachusetts and New York boundary commission and commissioner at the Albany congress of 1754. Though the stamp act was passed in opposition to his advice, his sympathy with royal prerogative and his relations with unpopular instruments of authority drew upon him the wrath of a mob, which sacked his house and destroyed his furniture and library, including an invaluable collection of historical manuscripts. During the years when he was governor he was in perpetual conflict with assembly and people, withdrawing from the country in 1774. He was the author of a "History of Massachusetts Bay."

³ Note by Lydius.

TO SAMUEL AND WILLIAM BAKER

A. Df. S.

Febr^y. 19th. 1749/50

[¹] by Captⁿ. Knox And
 [] 30th. of August last together
 wth. 3 Amounts of [] am m[]
 hear the Bills & Certificates are less [] now,
 than at first. it appears to us here [] however as
 we cannot help it, must bear it wth. [] I am glad
 to hear you have got the Blankets finished & hope they may
 answer, as I should have a great Vent for them — Inclosed I
 send you a Memorandum for Some trifles, w^h. be so good to
 Send me th first Opertunity I am much Hurried So Conclude
 Gentmⁿ.

Y^r Most Obed^t. Humble Serv^t.

W J:

To MESS^{RS} SAMUEL & W^M. BAKERMerch^{ts}. in Londonth Captⁿ. Knox*Memorandum*

[Two volumes quarto of Mathematical Elements of Natural
 Philosophy, confirmed by experiments — or an intro-
 duction to Sir Isaac Newton's Philosophy; translated
 into ²] English by the late J. T. D[esaguliers.

Also the] Second Edition of Doctor Desaguliers course of
 [Experimental Phi]losophy, adorned with 78 copper
 plates In Two Volumes [quarto.]

Chamber's Dictionary, 2 volumes.

Baker's Microscope made easy.

Rodderick Randum.

The Gentlemans Magazine from Decembr 1748 to the present
 [time.]

The Family Magazine in 2 parts.

¹ Several lines missing.² Burned portions supplied from a copy in Stone's *Sir William Johnson*.

An Historicall review of the Transactions of Europe from the
Commencement of the War with Spain.

The Whole proceedings in the House of Peers against the three
Condemned Lords.

Amaryllis a new Musical Design well Bound.

A good French Horn with the Notes.

A good Common Hunting Horn.

A good loud Trumpett.

A Dozen of good black lead pencils.

1 lb of best red Sealing Wax.

1 lb of black D^o.

2 Rream of good Common writing paper.

200 lb of ground white lead.

100 of good red lead.

20 gallons of good Linseed Oyl.

A good Globe to Hang in a Hall with light.

A Prism ————— Some prints as

Titians Loves of the Gods.

Le Bruns Battles of Alexander.

Some Numbers Pousins Landscapes by Knaptons.

4 Seasons Day by Lancret.

4 prints of a Camp by Watteau.

Some numbers Houbrakens Heads.

The pictures of Some of the best running horses at New
Market.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: February 19th. 1749/50
Coppay of a Letter and
Memorandum of trifles
to Mess^{rs}. Baker

TO GEORGE CLINTON

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:547-49, is a letter of February
19th from Johnson to George Clinton, followed by an account of Indian
proceedings at Mount Johnson, February 2d.

FROM WARREN JOHNSON

A. L. S.

<Dublin, Feb^y 24th 1749/50D^R BRO>

I had two days ago the pleasure of yours Dated at New York the 24th of Nov^r last and am heartily glad thereby to find that you are well & in good Spirits.

I had a Short time ago a letter from my Unkle Sir Peter wherein he Mentions you & do assure you I must say vastly in your praise you Mention to me in your last ab^t the Independant Company of which I wrote to you when In England by my Unkle's Orders & do promise you D^r Bro it was then his real inclination to get you one having the highest regard for your Interest & welfare & desired me to acquaint you of it in the terms which I did & hope 'ere Long Shall have the pleasure of Congratulating you upon it, Which I do assure you woud give me as real a pleasure as any person Living, hearing of your Success you may imagine would rejoice all your friends but in Perticular, one who Lies under So many obligations as I do to you my D^r Bro & Shall always take pleasure in Acknowlidging them. I have been lately at Smithstown They are all very well & desire their Love to you nothing could give me so much happiness as to have very often the pleasure of hearing from you and do Assure you I Shall let Slip no Opportunity on my side. I had our C^t of Arm's Cut in a very neat manner which I was to have Sent you with this but after I had got them from the Cuters found that they ware the O Neal's but have Since ordered the Johnson's Arm's to be Cut as soon as possible which I Shall Send as soon as finished with the Pamphlets &ca.

Our Regt. is now Quartered at Wexford we have of Late got Col: Cole to be our Col: I would say a great many things more but am prevented being Oblidged to wait upon him upon the Affairs of the Reg^t So must Conclude with wishing you all

the Success & happiness that can attend on Man & believe me to be ever my D^r Bro.

Your most Sincere & most Affect. Bro:

WARREN JOHNSON

pray write me by every opportunity

This goes enclosed to Mess^{rs} Bakers.

ADDRESSED: To Col. William Johnson

at New York or Albany, America

Cap^t. <Sweetman?>

Q. D. C.

Foward^d. fro: Lond^o. y^e. 5th. March 1749/50

By Sr. Yo^r. Humb Ser^{ts}.

Sam^l. & W^m: Baker

FROM JOHN H. LYDIUS

A. L. S.

Albany March 18th 1749/50

S^r.

We have hear in Town Tree or four Cagnewage Indians the One Intends to Goo and See his Wifs Relations In New England thay Say wen thay Came away From Canyday Mons^r Longulie¹ Governor of Mountriell² told them he Expected the Return of Monseiur Bobasin³ Momentlie & that he wass to Come Emediately to Crownpoint Likelie with Dispatches Concerning y^e Exchange of Preseners; thay have had a Very siklie Time in Canyday.

as the Judges have Acording to His Excel^{ts}: Warrent Sommon'd M^r Collins and Som Evidences to Apear before them on ye 2th of March; he Antered to their Proceeding the Inclosed Protest soo that thay have Ajournied to y^e. 10th. of Aprill Next

¹ Charles Le Moyne, Baron de Longueuil.

² Montreal.

³ Beaubassin.

y^e. Day thay were together the Weif of Will^m Taylor Came Volentariellie and offered to Give hir Evidence but the Judges Sent hir Bak & wood not hear hir Soo that it is Plainlie thay Dont Cear to Do any thing in the Affar without being ordered And as I Observed befor the Names in his Excellencies Warrent Wer Not the proper Persons that should a Bean in. he is Jesterday Gon to New York that is Collins Soo that ther is Time to have it Rectified.

On the Other sid you have Coppy of A Letter¹ from Boston Informing me that Governor Shirly is Appointed one of y^e Commissioners to settel the Bounderies between Us And the French wherein thay Desire me to Give them all the Information in my Power Conserving y^e. Premises; I have toald them that y^e. Lake Shamplane wass by y^e. french Called y^e. Iroquois seas & that I Divers Times hear the Indians of y^e. Five Nations Clame that Lake as fare as a Rok Colled Rojejo. & that by y^e. Treaty of Utrecht y^e. Five Nations by ye French Colled Iroquois, Are Deem'd subjects to G^r Brittain & that Consiquently the Property belonging to them is Desend^d. with them to y^e. Crown of Great Briten. I also Roat them that I find in y^e. History of Nik^s Sanson D'abbaville Geographer To y^e French King² that Kanyday in Peticuler was that Part towards the Mout of s^t. Lerens Rever that Lieth on the Rite Hand as You Cum up the River. The Lands on y^e: Lift Side Bordering upon y^e. sea is in the Immediate Posession of the Brittis subjects & of Consiquence y^e. side Doth belong to y^e. Engelish. I also Roat Unto them that I would advise your Honor About it in Order to have a Trety with the Indians Conserving y^e. Premisses for them Ither to send Deligates or to Impower Some propper Person In their Behalf to Joyn the Commiss^{rs}: Appointed by his Majesty to make Clame as fare as y^e. Five Nation make a Pretension.

I Desire your honour to Mention Noting of your having sean

¹ Thomas Hutchinson to Lydius, February 9, 1749/50, q. v.

² Nicolas Sanson d'Abbeville, 1600-67 — *Biographie Universelle*, Michaud.

y^e. Protest I had it in a Privacie. Mr. Goldon Receved a Letter the Other Day and the Oold Gentelmn Desird to Be Rememberd to your Self

I Remain S^r.

Yours To Command

JOHN H: LYDIUS

FROM JOHN CATHERWOOD

A. L. S.

<London, 2 Ap^l 1750>

D^R COLL

Since I had the pleasure of writing <to you, I've> been closely employd in the liquidation of the Gov. Accounts; w^{ch} are all gone through with now, & Money raised by Parliament to discharge the Sums liquidated; and altho' several Disallowances are made upon His Ex^{ys} Accounts for his own personal service, mine & others (w^{ch} I am very sorry for), Yet I have the pleasure to tell You that all your charges, & the Appointments w^{ch} the Gov^r gave you are allowed, of w^{ch} I give you Joy; but as Matters are not yet ripe for an Application to gett Your Commission confirmed, I must beg You will not be uneasy on that score, as I shall do all in my power to obtain it, and if I fail therein shall send Your own over again.

Upon His Ex^{ys} recommending you to be of the Council in the room of Col^o. Moore,¹ I urged Your Appointment to be in the room of M^r Livingston,² as you seemd desirous to take place next to M^r Holland,³ but Sir Peter Warren secretly asked it as a favour to place you before M^r Holland, w^{ch} was not your own desire, nor do I think it just, wherefore I have been under a Necessity of praying that M^r Holland may take place according to his Appointment at New York. With w^t View Sir P^r did

¹ John Moore.

² Philip Livingston.

³ Edward Holland.

this, I know not, unless it was to turn Mr Holland out of the Council to please the Faction, who in my Opinion regard neither of you; however as the State of the Province is soon to come under Consideration by an order from the Lords in Council, I hope you'l both have your places as you desire, & whatever Construction Sir Peter may put upon my Conduct touching this affair, <I do> assure You, I have no other design <than to have you> both recommended according to your wishes & Justice. When the Consideration of the Province comes on, I am told that your Care & Management of the Indians will be likewise considered, and you may depend upon my assiduity to serve You in that & every other Capacity in my power. with which I beg leave to conclude with my Services to all Friends Dr Col^o.

Your ever faithful & Affectionate Servant

JN^o CATHERWOOD

The Indian Officers Pay was all allow^d

I hope little Will behaves well & improves.

There is £480. 6. 0 twice charged in one of your Accounts w^{ch}. you must make good to his Exc^y

ADDRESSED: To Coll William Johnson
at Mount Johnson in the County of Albany
to the care of Mr Armstrong Merchant at New
York

By Captain Bryant

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: April 2^d. 1750

FROM WILLIAM COZZENS

A. L. S.

New York Apl. ye 5th. 1750

COLL. JOHNSON

S^R.

I take the freedom of Troubling you with my Fathers Letters which he Desired me to Do in his Letter which I Rec^d. from him he Wrote to me to Send a picture & a Box of Dalma[] &

not as yet recoverd his Lost Skin & if I were to Describe him as he appear'd to me he was something like a Cased Rabbit after a short Interval of discourse with him we mounted & away on our arrival here we found the Coll Mr Ofarrell & the Gentlemen that bear him company were over the water at the Widows upon which in due form Wrote out our reports of the expedition we were just arrived from a copy of which you have herewith Inclosed & I hope will meet your approbation Matters of Form being finished we shortend our dimensions by Setting down assumed our Tubes charged Ignified & Fumigated the Room but what numbers how great & nobely they Fell I Leave a better Pen then mine to Tell that there was Some Warm Work eue¹ Signa in Capitis cornu oculisque Ofarrell Armigeri (Qui non ait in hoc Signo vinces) he however Swears revenge on the Roman for my Part I was Satisfied to take up with the Haw bank for that night others got over the River but how I beleive very few or none Can tell. however on the Sunday we dined with Coll: Marshall who desires to be particularly rememberd to you you must think we were not Idle with So good a hand & in short till Monday night one Intire Scene of Jollity has been our lot but as human Nature cannot for ever withstand the Potency of the Liquid god we unanimously declined our taking So great a share of his benefits as we have done till we have in some measure recoverd our Scatterd Intellects that I might return with a Whole Skin to New York for which I intend a Thursday night or Friday morning the Greek remains as cold as ever lost to all Human Senses ever thinking him Self nearly encircled with the bold Arms of [²]
 Shrieks & hollow Sounding Groan[! Shocks
 our Ears from the nearness of [] you a
 Legacy of one Dozen of English Bea[] &
 Safe Passage over the River Styx thus hav[]

¹ Eheu?

² Several lines are missing.

with a Long detail of Nonsense which must Grate your
[] I must beg leave to conclude with the
Compliments of all Cabo[] Sons & am Dear Sir

Your most Humble Servant

SAMUEL CRAMER

P S I believe I have left behind me a ruffled Shirt in the Room
we Lay in that case your Sending it to my Friend Mills by the
first occassion will verry much oblige

LORDS OF TRADE TO GEORGE SECOND¹

April 10th.

To the Kings most Excell^t: Majesty
May it please Your Majesty.

Representation to
His Majesty propos-
ing William Johnson
Esq^r. to be of the
Council of New
York in the room
of Philip Levingston
Esq^r. Deceased.

Philip Levingston Esq^r. One of Your
Majesty's Council in the Province of
New York being deceased, and William
Johnson Esq^r. being recommended to Us
as a Person every way qualified to serve
your Majesty in that Station, We humbly
take Leave to propose that he may be
appointed of Your Majesty's Council in
New York in the room of the said Philip
Levingston Esq^r.

Which is most humbly Submitted

J. PITT,

DUPPLIN,²

FRAN: FANE

CHA^s. TOWNSHEND

J. GRENVILLE.

Whitehall }
April 10th: 1750 }

¹ In Public Record Office, London, England, C. O. 5.1127.

² Thomas Hay, Viscount Dupplin.

KING GEORGE TO GEORGE CLINTON ¹

George R.

Will^m. Johnson
to be of the Coun-
cil of New York.

Trusty and Welbeloved We greet You well!— We being Well satisfyed of the Loyalty Integrity & Ability of Our Trusty and Welbeloved William Johnson Esq^r: have thought fit hereby to signify Our Will and Pleasure to you,—that forthwith upon Receipt hereof you swear & admit him the said William Johnson to be of Our Council in Our Province of New York, in the room of Philip Livingston Esq^r. deceas'd; And for so doing this shall be your Warrant. And so We bid You farewell. Given at Our Court at St: James's the Twelfth day of April 1750, in the Twenty Third Year of Our Reign.

By His Majesty's Command.
Bedford.

Superscribed.

To Our Trusty & Welbeloved George Clinton Esq^r: Our Cap^t: Gen^l: & Governor in Chief of Our Province of New York in America; And in his Absence to Our Commander in Chief, or to the President of Our Council of Our said Province for the time being.²

¹ In Public Record Office, C. O. 324.38, London, England.

² The usual State Oaths were administered to Colonel Johnson, which he subscribed, and repeated and subscribed the Test. And also took an Oath, well and truly to execute the office and Trust of a Councillor of this province according to the best of his Skill and Judgment. And then took his seat at the Board.—Council Minutes, July 10, 1751, 21:438.

FROM THOMAS BUTLER

A. L. S.

Oswego Apr^l. 28th. 1749/50¹

SIR

Since I wrote you last nothing Extraordinary has happend here, I have had the luck to Trade about Six packs The Chief of which is Bever. I shall send them to you So Soon as Martin Arives which I suppose to be prity soon

I shall want another Battoe with Goods which desire the favour you'l furnish me with, inclosed is the Memorandum of the things I shall need. I send this to you Now that you May have them ready against Martin comes down. I am prity much Troubled with a pain in My Side which I have had near two years. I shall be highly oblidged to you if you cou'd Spare me one bottle with Tarlingtons Drops. Mr. Farrell & Comp^y. arived safe here yesterday. I wish you health & prosperity & am Sir

Yr. Most Obed^t. Serv^{tt}

THO^s: BUTLER

P: S:

a Ki[yoga India]n known
by y^e. name [] man Died
in Cannaday [] time last
winter. The in[] says there
is a Great Sickness among the French
that they die very fast & sudden

ADDRESSED: To Coll William Johnson
att Mount Johnson

¹ Double date in the manuscript.

TO GEORGE CLINTON

*Contemporary Copy*¹*May 4, 1750*

May it please Your Excellency;

I am honoured with yours of the 4th: & 5th: of April, which I would have answer'd sooner, were it not from the daily alarms I am troubled with from the five Nations, which has taken up my time this fortnight past; I should have acquainted y^r. Excellency of it e're now, but thought it better to Wait until I had some Certainty of the News, which is that the French with several Nations of Western Indians are resolved to destroy the Indians on Ohio River, who are in our Interest, & then the five Nations. Upon which several Messages has been sent me lately to acquaint me of it, and to know what assistance they may depend upon from Us. Give me leave to Assure your Excellency that our shewing a readiness to assist & protect them at this time would be of more Service than a present of £5000, as they look upon it that they are now to be Cutt off: without some assistance from Us, the Warriours who are all Hunting are sent for to be in readiness. The Women of both Castles came to me, & beg'd I would repair the Stockados round their Castles, where several are decayed & pulled down, & to have Irons and Locks put to all the Gates thereof, which I immediately got done, & promised them all the assistance in my power, even my House for a Refuge in Case of need, which pleased them much. I think I could not reasonably refuse them any thing in my power to serve them at such a time, who have been so ready to assist us when they were called upon, and by that means have brought this trouble on themselves. (How shocking a thing it is that even our Militia cannot be review'd, having no Militia Act, which could make them Imagine we were really inclined to protect

¹ In Public Record Office C. O. 5. 1087, London, England, as extract of Minutes of Council, of May 22. The greater part of Johnson's draft has been destroyed.

them) I shall give your Excellency in as few Words as I can the reason of the French's design; the first and principal one is, that them Indians settled at Ohio River (to the number of 800 Men) offerd to Join us in the late War against the French and their Allies, as by several Messages sent to Your Excellency by the five Nations & me will plainly appear, & then finding that We had no Occasion for them, they of their own Will & inclination killed Fifteen of the French who lived thereabouts, & would have taken their Fort and destroyed all in it, were they not prevented by some old Sachims, who it seems were somewhat Wiser and cooler than the rest, telling them it would be wrong to do so, in as much as their Brethren the English had now made a peace with the French, the Second Reason is, for the harsh reception & Usage they gave the French Generall or Commanding Officer,¹ who went there last Summer with a Body of 500 Men in order to destroy them, but finding them ready to receive him, by Intelligence from me alterd his Tune, & told them he came there for their Good, to forbid the English meaning the Philadelphians &c^a: Encroaching on them and their Lands; also to Invite them all to Canada in the Spring, to see their Father who waited for them in open Arms; which they all immediately refused with the utmost Indignation, throwing the Belts of Wampum, with which he spoke on the Ground. At his departure some of them fired a Ball at him, which Graz'd along his Ribbs: this together with the former Enraged the Governour to that Degree, that he last fall sent orders to all the Officers in them distant Garrisons, to use their utmost Interest with all Nations thereabouts, to take up the Ax & Join him against those Indians, & the five Nations; they succeeded so far as to get 15 Castles of the Ottawawees &c^a. to take up the Ax, upon which they made great Entertainments for them, such as Slaughtering Bullocks &c^a. then Sung their War Songs, five Sachims of the Mississagees who are firmly attached to the British Interest being present at the time, at Night as the rest were Dancing and merry, they Slipt away, went to their own

¹ Céloron de Bienville.

Castle, told all had past, to their Brethren, who were much Shocked at the News, Saying in their way they were all Dead; however they were determined to live and Die by the Five Nations according to the old agreement made between them, so Sent an Express immediately to the Senecas with a Belt of Wampum, and 15 bloody Sticks tyed to it, to be sent through all the Nations, & then to your Excellency Warning them and us to be on our Guard, that the French had a design to Cutt them all off this Spring or Summer, which Belt lyes now with me. the Reason of the 15 Bloody Sticks is to shew that there are 15 Castles Joined the French to spill their Blood. It has alarmed the five Nations prodigiously and no less all the Inhabitants on the Mohawks River. Yet I can't think they will offer to touch the five Nations at this time, but those distant Indians in our Interest, I realy think they will either destroy them, or bring them over to their Interest, which if they do, the five Nations must also Submitt to them; wherefore I think the greatest & Speediest care should be taken to prevent & oversett a Scheme of so great Importance & bad Consequence: The Indians all ask me often, whether you won't come to Albany this Summer to speak with them; I answer them I don't know as yet; give me leave to assure your Excellency, if you don't renew the Covenant Chain after the Warr as usual with the five Nations, &ca or order it to be done in a Handsome manner, that they will certainly think themselves Slighted by us. Hendrick, old Seth, & the rest of the Chiefs of the two Mohawks Castles, assure me that if a few (even half a dozen) of the Principal Sachims of the Catabaws would come to my House, or to Albany and desire a peace wth: the five Nations, that they would make a peace wth: them & I think, I could bring the rest of the five Nations als into it. I am heartily sorry to find by Your Excellency's last Letters & others there is nothing done yet in my affairs at Home, nor no likelihood of getting Justice done me here by the Province; all which together with my daily unavoidable disbursements to the Indians falls very hard upon me, I assure you S^r. & cannot help myself, I find, while I continue on this uncertain footing, I am thoroughly convinced

were it in y^r. Exy's power things would go better with me than they do; Wherefore if there is no hopes of an alteration soon I should Choose with your Excy's Consent to resign every thing; as my continuing longer on the footing I have hitherto will certainly ruin me, which I think would be a Cruel return for what pains, Service & Expence I have taken, done & been at, and what I flatter myself your Excy: would not Choose or desire. As the Indians are so uneasy at this piece of News, & Expect further accounts about it daily, I should be glad to know as soon as possible what answer to give them, as they earnestly desire to know what assistance or Encouragement they may Expect from Us in Case of an Attack made by the French & Indians against them. I fear, I have intruded too much on y^r. Excy's Patience, wherefore beg leave to conclude with all due respect Imaginable,

Your Excellency's

most obedient humble Servant

sign'd W^m. JOHNSON.

TO CASPER LEIP

A. L. S.

Mount Johnson May 16th. 1750

Please to let the Bearer Capt^m. Butlers Negroe have 60 ^{lb} of Bacon, and I will pay you for it. Witness my Hand.

W^m. JOHNSON

(On same sheet)

den May den 18 1750

Zanneo pack Hat eem fan ne 60 pond Speck von Kasber Leip auf das Karnel Schansing rechel ling

KASBER LEIB

Translation

May 18th, 1750

Zanneo Pack has received 60 pounds of bacon from Casper Leip on Colonel Johnson's account.

CASPER LEIP

(on back of sheet)

June 24th 1750 Have Recd [] Johnson the Sum
of Seventeen Shillings in full of all acct^{ts} as witness my Hand

his

£ 0 . . 17s — KASPER K L LEIP
Mark

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

L. S.

Fort George 22^d May 1750

S^R.

Yours of 4th Instant I received, and have sent Copies to Governour Hamilton,¹ and the President of the Council of Virginia,² earnestly pressing them to take the proper precautions on the Occasion, as those Indian Nations are more immediatly a Barrier to their Governments.

You may assure the Mohawks, that no assistance, in my power, shall be wanting for them, in case of an attack from the common Enemy.

As things now stand it is impossible the Militia can be reviewed, till an Act is made to enforce them, and that shall be the very first thing I go upon when the Assembly meets, but that can not possibly be done till they do, which I can not permit, till I have received Orders for that purpose, which I have wrote to the Ministry for, and daily expect particular Directions from them, relating to my future Conduct to the Assembly, to enable me to support His Majesty's Prerogative from the many late villainous and daring attempts upon it.

I am as much concerned as you can be, that there is nothing yet done in your affairs at home as well as my own; which I have been solliciting these four or five years; But as the Ministry have been of late involved in such a Multiplicity of Business, Patience and Perseverance must be our present remedy; But assure yourself I have your Interest equally at heart with my own. One

¹ James Hamilton, deputy governor of Pennsylvania, 1748–54.

² Thomas Lee.

piece of News I can congratulate you on, which is that all your Bills, (on account of the late intended Expedition against Canada) will be soon paid; enclosed I send you the NewsPaper, wherein you will see the Paragraph, I am with great sincerity

S^r Your very humble Servant

G CLINTON

P S: Notwithstanding I have been frequently & fervently pressed and even to occasion a grumbling among the officers (especialy those last come over), for their turn of Duty at the out Garrisons, I have still taken notice of your Recommendation, & continued them (viz Lindesay & Butler) it surprized me that you should give an ear to such false Reports, which I never so much as thought of, your request being of sufficient weight with me to continue them.

Council Chamber New York 22^d May 1750

Minutes of Council of this day

His Excellency communicated a Letter from Coll Johnson of the 4th Inst. &c:

The Council humbly advised his Excellency to direct Co^{ll}. Johnson, to assure the five Nations, That if they are attacked by any Enemy, they shall be supplied with a quantity of Powder and Ball, and assisted with Men, Also to consult with the Officers of the Militia on the Mohawks River and Schoharie, and if they should be of opinion, that the Men will appear under Arms on a Summons, That he should then order them to muster and review them (But not to force any Mans Appearance) to shew the Indians we are in readiness to support them.

By the above Minute of Council you will see what is their opinion in pursuance of your Letter, which I desire you will make a proper use of among the Indians

I shall forward your two Letters sent to the Doctor

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Gov^r. Clintons letter

May 22^d. 1750

FROM JOHN CATHERWOOD

A. L. S.

<Lo>ndon <26> May 1750

DR. SIR

I have the pleasure to tell you that you are appointed a Councillor for the Province of New York¹ pursuant to His Ex^{ty}s. recommendation, and as he is very ready upon all occasions to oblige his Fr<iends> I hope nothing will move you to drop <your> attachment inviolable to him; But that <you> will try now as a Member of the Legisla<ture> to serve him & your self with the Asse<mbly> for the recover of your Debts & arrears due from the Province to the respecti<ve> persons concerned.

I was informed this Morning that the State of the Province will come soon under Considⁿ. In the mean time, I pray you to use your good offices among the Indians that they may not fall off from their Fidelity to the Crown, w^{ch} has lately cost vast Sums for that purpose, as you well know, & it is tho^t reasonable now that the Colonies shou^d take upon themselves that Expence.

My compliments wait upon all Friends & believe me to be always Dr Sir

Your faithful & affectionate Servant

JN^o CATHERWOOD

This comes by way of Boston so that I write in a great hurry, having heard that the Ship is gone down the River.

ADDRESSED: To The Hon^{ble}. W^m. Johnson Esq^r.
one of his Majesty's Council
for the Province of New York

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: May 26,² 1750

¹ See Royal Warrant, April 12, 1750, p. 274.

² In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:568, is a letter dated May 31, 1750, from Governor James Hamilton to Governor George Clinton, in which evidence of French designs given by Johnson is disparaged.

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

L. S.¹

[June 29, 1750]

[²] the Minutes [] Coun[]
Copy of for your direction, in the [] Prisoners on
both sides I desire you would send [] Capt: Stod-
dert (who I suppose will return with the [] the
Exchange conformable to your last sent by him []
to mention the time and place when & where it is to be and to fix
on some proper Persons, that you can confide in, to go with the
French Prisoners to the place appointed and order them that as
soon as the Exchange is made, they return with our Prisoners. I
make no doubt but that you will take care that our French
Prisoners be at the Great Carrying place punctually at the time,
that they may have no excuse to return to Canada f[or w]ant of
Meeting on our Side, The Dr w[] that you
should appoint either your own [house, Sch]enectady or Albany
which ever place you tho[ugh]t best for Beaubassin to speak to
the French Prisoners, but not to suffer him to converse or speake
to our Indians at any rate; which when he has done I would have
you conduct him to Albany, that he may take his departure for
Canada from that place. The day he sits out from Albany
begins the first of the 25 days, the last of which is the appointed
day of Exchange.

I have issued this day a Proclamation which I Expect will
secure Bradts Indian Child and prevent others from being Guilty
of the like. I desire you will forward the Proclamation which
I have directed & enclosed for Lt. Lindesay at Oswego, and have
ordered him to make a proper use of it among the Indians, to
shew [] Sr

Your very humble []

G: CLINTON

¹ Body of letter is in handwriting of R. Ayscough.

² Several lines are missing.

[] inclosed you some
Proclamations to make what use
of you shall think proper all
friends desire their Compliments to You

Mr^s Fabre, and a French Man I have given leave to go along with Mr Beaubassin tho' no Notice is taken of it in his pass.¹

[humbly of Opinion [^{2]} Yesterday are
of Canada a Letter [] Answer to the Governour
do acquaint him.] March last N: S:

That the Complaint he makes of the English Merchants coming into the French Territories, & selling Goods in the Indian Villages to the prejudice of the French Trade is too general, no particular place being mentioned, and as the Extent of the English & French Governments is not yet determined (Commissaries being lately appointed for that purpose) it may be uncertain which of the Two Governments such places are within the Limits of, & therefore he can have no just pretence to confiscate the Good[s of s]uch Traders

[] Complaint of Persons at Oswego
endeavouring to [] Resentment of the French
Indians against the Fre[nch i]s also too general no particular
Person being accu[se]d, & therefore an Enquiry there in may be
supposed to be fruitless, but that his Excellency will write to the
Commanding Officer at Oswego about it & give direction that
the French be civilly treated whenever they may happen to come
among the English.

That it appearing from the Papers & Affidavits laid before the Council that Mr Lamiere and the Indian who came with him to this City in October last were well satisfied with the accounts given of the Abnaikee Indians and desirous to return to Canada & not to go to Boston, and also that the said Indian was well used on board the Sloop he went in from hence bound to Albany.

¹ The first six lines on this page written by Clinton.

* Several lines missing.

That his Excellency therefore send Copies of these Papers to the Governour of Canada and []
 Excellency do complain of the [our]
 Indians away from Oswego to Canada []
 the Governour of Canada to give strict Orders []
 prevent this practice for the Future.

That his Excellency also acquaint the Governour of Canada, that all the French Prisoners in this Government shall be sent away so as to arrive at the Great carrying place at the Lake St Sacrament about twenty five days after Mr Beaubassin's Departure from Albany in Order to be there Exchanged for our prisoners.

The Council are also of Opinion that his Excellency be pleased to direct Col^l Johnson to suffer Mr Beaubassin to see and converse with the French Prisoners either at his house, at Schenectady or A[lbany] as he thinks most convenient, but not to see [] Conversation with our Indians.

FROM GENEVIEVE LYDIUS ¹

A. L. S.

6th of July, 1750

MONSIEUR

Jay recue Celle que vous mavés fait lhonneur de mecrire par denbie

Je vous envoit par lui deux Couverte frenoise tel que je les ait peu avoir elle sont un peut petite je souhaite que vous Convienne j en attend en huit ou dix jours dicy qui seront plus grande que Celle

il ny a rien de nouveau qui soit digne de vous reciter sinon que antonie vanskaik madit devant de parter pour aller a la pointe que Colains etoit la Cause que Caticue etoit en allér et quil eu differant avis lui pour quelque autre Sujet

¹ Wife of John Henry Lydius, who was employed at that time in exchanging French and English prisoners.

J'esperent que mon marie aura finis son ouvrage a moins de
deux semeine

toute notre familles vous salue

Je suis avec toute la

sincerité possible

le 6 julliett

1750

Monsieur

Votre tres humble et tres
obeisant servante

GENEVIÈVE LYDIUS

Translation

SIR

I have received the letter which you have done me the honor
to write me by Denbie.

I send you by him two French coverlets such as I have been
able to get. They are rather small. I hope they may suit you.
I expect some in eight or ten days from now which will be larger
than these.

There is nothing new worth telling you except that Anthony
Van Schaick told me before leaving for the Point that Colains
was the cause of Catiche's going away, and that he himself had
different information that it was for some other reason.

I hope that my husband will have finished his work in less than
two weeks.

All our family send good wishes.

I am with all possible

sincerity

the 6th of July

1750

Sir

Your very humble and very
obedient servant

GENEVIEVE LYDIUS

FROM TEADY MEGIN¹

Oswego July 11th. 1750

SIR

I rec^d. Your favour together with the Goods which Came Safe. I am Very Sorrey there was no More Wompem & Silver. I Now Send you twenty packs Viz: two with Bevers. one with Rackoons. & seventeen of Lether which I hope will come Safe.

Bever is Current Sold here at 7^s/ Ɔ. ⁱⁱ. I have no News to acquaint you with. hope to have the pleasure of Seeing You in Short. in the Mein time rest Sir

Y^r. Most Hum^{bl}. Serv^t

TEADY MEGIN

P: S: My Complim^{ts}. to M^r Farral

Butler desires his Service to you but has no opportunity to Send you his packs.

ADDRESSED: To Coll William Johnson
att Mount Johnson

FROM ARENT STEVENS

*L. S.*²

Oswego July 11th. 1750

SIR

I wrote you from the Carrying place the reason why I should not go to Onnodagah, a few days after My Ariveal here came to me Connossadagah with two or three other Sachems from Annodagah to inquire if I had any perticular News

I spoke to them with the String of Wompom. Acquainting them that the Southerign Indians which they were now at Warr with was desireious of Makeing Peace with the Six Nations. & that they proposed coming by the way of New York in order to

¹ Letter written and signed by Thomas Butler.

² Letter in hand of Thomas Butler.

Treat with them about the Affairs, that they were afraid of Coming through the Country to be killed by the way.

Upon which they Said Shou'd be Glad had it been told them in the Spring for since that time there is a Great Many Gone against them & others iest upon Going which they belived wou'd not be prevail'd on to Stop

Then I Spoke to them with the Belt of Wompom upon the Subject you desired me about their Going so often and Setteling with the Preist below Kadaraiquee.¹ That it Gave the Governour & you a Great deal of Uneaisiness That you foresaw The French were for divideing the Six Nations and That if they once had them so farr instead of using them like Children he wou'd use them like dogs and in time wou'd make them kill one another.

Upon which they answered it was very True what I Said that they foresaw all this but cou'd not fall upon a way to put a Stop to or hinder it. the reasons they Said were these. That the French were a very Stiring People and never still But constantly inviteing the Indians to come See them where they no Sooner came but were Cloathed from Head to foot. besides powder and lead in plenty all for nothing. They told me that some Said they went to be instructed how to pray. After they had made me this answer they return'd me the belt which I had given them But Said they took the News to Heart & so soon as they Came to their Castle wou'd speak with one of their own belts & promised to do their utmost indeavours to hinder the Indians from Going to the French.

As the only busness of these Sachems here was to inquire after News. I had nothing to bestow them allthough it was Necessary they shou'd have Some thing But²

ARENT STEVENS³

¹ Fort Frontenac, now Kingston, Canada.

² Only the first two pages of letter remain.

³ The name is written in another hand at bottom of second page.

FROM THOMAS CUMMING

A. L. S.

Schenechtady, July 14 1750

COLL JOHNSON

ESTEEMED SIR

Benevolence is an inherent Quality in great & good Minds, and those Breasts that open freely to the Reception of Strangers and can welcome them to a generous and hospitable Protection are possessed of a Benevolence of the most refined Nature. No Language, I am Master of, can enough describe it, nor know I of any Return so Suitable to it as Gratitude

Thou wilt not be surprized then, that I embrace this early Opportunity of acknowledging to thee, as I hope to do to many others, to whose Goodness I am indebted for so great a Gratification, my predominant Passion (Curiosity) has had since my first Sight of this Part of the World. Thou art my Creditor. To thee I owe not only the Favours I so bountifully rec^d with so much Easiness at thy House, and which I would not mention, had it not been for the odd Circumstances attending my Visit, &c. but also for, what was my main Plot, being so well informed of the Nature and political Situation of our most Gracious King's Dominions in those Parts. Give me Leave to say, I knew nothing, till I made this Tour. And, I beg thou wilt not be offended, if thou hearest I should tell Strangers, *if they want to be informed, they must apply to Coll^l Johnson.*¹ Let thy good Nature pardon this Freedom; and believe me, without Flattery I Sincerely wish Prosperity to this Province, but if that happens, they must, (the People) think of & esteem thee, as doth Thy most respectful Fr^d. &c

THOMAS CUMMING.

ADDRESSED: To W^m Johnson Esq^r
Pr. favour of Cap^t Stoddard.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Ansrd.

¹ Words in italics are underlined by Cumming in the original.

FROM THOMAS BUTLER

A. L. S.

Oswego July 17th. 1750

SIR

I write you this by Mr. Wendell who can tell you how the Trade Goes here. which I belive is over except Some few Scater- ing Cannoes to expect I wou'd fain have sent you Some packs by Jo^s. Wells who went down for Akerman but cou'd not prevail with him though offerd Eight Shillings y^e. pack. I have now five packs Bever & Seven of lether 70 ll. Each

I have yet about 130 Gallons Rum & near Foure p^s Strouds, which I dont much fear Selling this month & the next. if you have an oppertunity pleas to Send me 1/2 lofe Sug^r. if Cap^t. Stodart comes up, hope he will bring Martin with him, who can help me down. I am Sir

Y^r. Most obed^t. Ser^t.THO^s: BUTLER

ADDRESSED: To Coll William Johnson
att Mount Johnson
⌘ Mr. Wendell

FROM TADY MAGIN¹*Oswego July 17th. 1750*

SIR

I have Spoke Several times to Albert Van Slyke to Send you his packs but he has not done it his Bev^r. &^c. are all packed up & his Battoe is Caulked So that I think he will Set of in a few days. I write you this that you may be on your Gaurd when he comes down otherways prehaps he may pass you in the night but he has Said he desingns his packs for you Some people have indeavoured to make him belive you have used him ill. The

¹ Letter wholly in handwriting of Thomas Butler.

Trade is now over. Except a few Cannoes we hear are coming.
I think to Set of the 23^d. instant

I am Sir

Y^r. Hum^l. Ser^t.

TEADY MAGINN

ADDRESSED: To Coll. William Johnson
att Mount Johnson

FROM ALBERT VAN SLYCK ¹

SIR

Oswego July 17th. 1750

I rec^d. y^r. favour Some time agoe I was Vastly Troubled
for what is happened to me. but hope in time to recover it. if my
Creditors dont fall to hard upon me. I hear Every thing I had
is Sold in Vandue at low prises & that my wife is turn'd out
doors

No man can Say but I have behaved well here this Summer.
I wait for an indian to come in from whom I expect Some Goods
When Shall Set of. I think to Go out this winter to the Cinakass
or Kiugass a Trading hope you'l assist me with Goods &c. I
have nothing More to Say till I See you

I am Sir

Y^r. Hum^l. Ser^t.

ALB^T. VAN SLYKE

ADDRESSED: To Coll W^m Johnson
att Mount Johnson

FROM SAMUEL AND WILLIAM BAKER

A. L. S.

[*London, July 23, 1750*]

[
favour of 26 May — & find you had receivd [what n-
Cornee, in the Spring; we will try to match the [10 car-
]

¹ Letter wholly in handwriting of Thomas Butler.

² Several lines missing.

the truth is, we did not imagine the Letters at the Corner to have been essential, but we thought we had very minutely imitated every other part; the rest of the Goods you order shall also be put in hand, & we hope to be able to send them to you before Winter — as to your Peltry we shall land it when the Ship comes up; our Markets for Furs we think are like to Continue much as of late, now & then some particular sorts rise & others fall, according as the Quantity of each sorts happens to be more or less on the Importation, sometimes also fashions alters, but in general Furs find a pretty good Demand — Beavor is by no means so certain a Commodity, But we dont see any Reason to fear it's falling for some time, the last price was 4/6 p d . if yours proves good we will try to make more of it, this, is what we reckon here a very good price, & in a Course of great many years we have seen it much lower, & very seldom higher, but at present the Consumption is pretty quick — We shall look into Capt. Millers power of Attorney & serve him what we can — Notwithstanding your Postscript there was no pattern of Aurora in your Letter. We are []
 []ither in your letter or in the Cask of Peltry which you said they were put into — We have sold your Furrs according to the rates of the inclosed price Currant, your Beaver is not yet gone we hope to make 5/ p d of it — We are

Sr.

Your most hum^l serv^{ts}

SAM^L & W^M BAKER

ADDRESSED: To

Col. William Johnson

Albany

p Capt. Deane

INDORSED: 23^d.¹ July & 8th. of August
 1750

¹ In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:578, in a letter of July 30th from George Clinton to the Lords of Trade, is mention of Johnson's recommendation by that board for a seat in the council.

FROM RICHARD MILLER

A. L. S.

Albany, July 31th. 1750

[P]eople here Keep thier Intensions a Seacret as [m]uch as they posiable Can Yet It may bee Easeley Seen throe that the Intention of the heads here In gennerall are for puting In Coll^o. Schuyler and Peter Winne whoo with thier party here work. Very hard from morning till night and M^r Collins Sends Letters to all parts of the County M^r Depoister is very Deligint and I Cant find out whether for him Self or for others is yet a Seacrett to your frinds who long to See You here and Say if You appeared it would mache a great allteration as they Confes it is In your power to Turn the Skeals If you take it in hands M^r Wuyngart Seems very Diliteroy and as Coll^o. Lidies and M^r Sanders and M^r Van Schoick are In the Contray gives oppertunity to the other party I am affeard to goe a great way In ganing the freeholders to thier Interest there is a talk of Hans Hansa and Long John Cuyler and many here would be glad that Suybrant Van Schoick would Set up you must be the best Judge your Self and Cant Say no more at present my wife and family Joyns me In thier best Respects to you and family.

I am Sr. Your ashured
frind & humbl^e Servant

JOHNSON

RICH^d MILLER

TO THE VOTERS OF CANAJOHARIE

A. Df. S.

[July 1750]

MESS^{rs}

Considering how troublesome & <Inconvenient> it would be to all the Farmers to <have an> Election att this time of the year, I went Imediately to Albany to See to make it up Easy

now without any trouble. Phillip Schyler & Hanse Hansen¹ were Sett up by the people of Albany, so I sent for them, & told them if thy would do their best for the good of the Country We would not Sett up any body against them now but if thy would not do good now for the Country, We would Sett up others next time. Whereupon thy promised me thy would do what they could, which I wish thy may for the Country never wanted it more. Now Gentlemen, & freinds I thank you all heartily for your good will for me, as well as if you voted everry bitt, and hope whenever there is another Election, you will be all as one Body to Stand by me, and putt in other good men, if those wont do good for Us Now, which I am afraid thy wont. for my part I am resolved as I live, here to stand by you all, for the good of the whole River. so hope we will always be true to one another. I am with hearty thanks for all your good Will

Your true friend, & Welwisher

W. J.

To all the MESS^{RS} OF CANAJOHAREE.

FROM THOMAS ARMSTRONG

A. L. S.

New York 5th. August 1750

SIR

I understand from Mr Macurdy that you want a fitt P^{er}son for clark & Storekeeper, the bearer Geo: Armstrong is Brother to my wife & arived here on Wensday last, & I realy belive may answer your End in these P^{ar}tic^{lar} if so I shou^d be Exceeding glad, he writes a good hand & understands Bookkeeping but hes had not much practice, I can promise you that hes very honest & good Natured for which I will be his Security, So that if you please

¹ Philip Schuyler and Hans Hansen represented Albany county in the twenty-sixth colonial assembly—September 4 to November 24, 1750; May 30 to June 6, and October 1 to November 25, 1751, when it dissolved.

you may take a tryel of him & if you thinke he will answer your End. the terms Shall be left to yourself as you see he deserves & it wou'd give both his Sister & me great Satisfaction to have him fixt with a Gentleman of So good dispositions to reward him as he may deserve, the Gentⁿ. where he was born has recomended him in reg^d. to his honest, & M^r. Macurdy was acquainted with his caricature when last at home & writes a few Lines with him to you; he had Some business upp at Albany & I have taken the Liberty to make him waite of you, if he stays I will send him upp his chist & cloes &c by any of the Sloopes & am with much Esteem Sir

Y^r. most obed^t. Hble sv^t.

THO ARMSTRONG

as I have no imediat business to keep him close imployed, & know it the only thing to make young fellows to keep them busy, engages to ley hold on the first oppertunity to fix him &c

ADDRESSED: To William Johnson Esq^r.
at Mount Johnson near
Albany

FROM PETER KALM

A. L. S.

Oswego August 7th. 1750

DEAR SIR

Tho' I am just now at the point to set out this very hour for Niagara, yet I can not miss the opportunity to retourn you Dear Sir, my most humble thanks for that favour, which you have shewn to me in a higher degree, than I ever could wish for; I am only sorry, that my hand and penn can't exprime what my heart would have it to do, as being a very poor writer in the English language; My consolation is, that you, Dear Sir, allways will take a humble heart for that which a body not can in words so well exprime Permitt me, Dear Sir, to say, that I have been thousand times surprised to see the steps you have taken, to let me, no less than

great many others, feel your particular kindness and favour, wherein you greatly do excell all other persons of mankind. if you, Dear Sir, had been one of my nearest relatives, if you have had the Kings command to do me all the favour that has been in you power to do me, you could not have done me so great kindness, as you have done; to you I own, that I in Mr. Printop have got a so good companion in my travels; to you only it is, that Captain Lindesay and his Lady do heap upon me all Sort of favour to shew in what great degree they look upon your command. if God spare my life, I shall an other time have a better opportunity to let the world know your great qualities, and when I have only said the half of them and of your kindness, every body shall find, that they greatly do surpass all others and put the mankind in admiration. I must make haste, and I do reckon as the greatest benefit, to be, Dear Sir,

Your must humble and obedient Servant

PETER KALM.

ADDRESSED: To Colonell William Johnson
in Mount Johnson.

TO GEORGE CLINTON

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:589-91, is an extract from a letter of August 18th written by Johnson to George Clinton, in which French designs touching western Indians are discussed and a French plan for the deception of the Five Nations described.

FROM JOHN LINDESAY

A. L. S.

Oswego 7th Sep^r 1750

SIR

My Last Letter was wrote before I heard of your being appointed on of his Majesties Counsile on which I congratulate you and I doe assure you that every thing that Contributs to your honour or Interest gives me Pleasure. This serves to in form you that on y^e first Instant ther Passed here a French off^r. who

that I have been thousand times surpris'd to find
 you have taken so far me, no less than great many
 for your particular kindness and favour, wherein you
 do exceed all other persons of mankind. if you have been
 has been one of my nearest relatives, if you have bid
 things command to do me all the favour that has been
 you please to do me, you ^{could} have not have done me
 great kindnesses as you have done to you I own that
 I in the Printers have got a few good compliments
 my hands to write it is, that Captain Lindsay and his
 lady do so upon me all kind of favour in their
 in what great favour they are upon your command.
 if God spare my life I shall at the time have a
 better opportunity to let the world know your great
 letters. as when I have only said the end of them and
 if your kindness, every body will find that they greatly
 is surpasses all others and put the mention in admi-
 nation. I must make haste, and I do wish that the
 greatest benefit to be

Dear Sir

Oswego August 1750
 1750.

your most humble and
 Obedient Servant
 Peter Kalm.

From Peter Kalm to Johnson, August 7, 1750
 (Latter half of letter)

wrote me a Letter acquainting me of his have brought from y^e Potuatumus two English prisoners who had made their escape from him at [Sodos?] & taken a Gun & Some oy^r things from him altho he not only had Payed their ransome but had used them in the Kindess mannor, two days after he went from this the two young men came here they informd me of the hole affair and I cannot bleam them for any thing they did, as this will be delivered to you by them I Leave it to them to tell their owen story by this & Several oy^r Informations I find that the Go^r of Canada gives orders the off^{rs}. that Lives amongs those Indians to Spirite them up against us in every shape but to make them goe out & Kill or take Prisoners in time of Pace I cannot help thinking a very unaccountable affair ther was Several of those Indians from that Castel who had taken those two young men and by their behav[iour] & by that of all Indians I find them much inclined to us & I cannot help Saying that were proper methods taken we might get most of those far off Nations I doe all I can I use all Indians well & kindly & endeavour to Convince them that the french makes Slaves of them, ther happened an affair here this Summer which made this appear very plain, Ther cam an off^r. here with Six Canoes of the far off Indians they had Goods and wanted to Trade but y^e Off^r would not allow them one Indian stole I should rather say took one of his owen Packs, & brou^t it to Cap^t. Butler y^e off^r. heard of it & ordered him to Carry it back to y^e Canoe, the Indian only beged Liberty to buy a Silver arms band, but he would not allow him as this was oppression & using them like Slaves I made the best use of it I could I shall only add that I am most respectfully Sr

Your Honours most obliged & most
obedient Ser^t

JOHN LINDESAY

I have sent a small bag w^t. oats
for y^e Swed I could get no more
I have Drawen a bill on you
for six pound five Sh^s w^h please
pay to M^r Mabie

Postscript on wrapper

SIR

Since Sealing the Inclosed I am Creditably inform'd the French will meet with some Opposition from the very Indians they expected would Join them they therefore have given permission to all the Young Men About Detroit whom they had before Stopp'd to return to Montreal in order to proceed Gradually with their Scheme, as they find the Manner they Intended will not Answ^r. but they must first get the Other Indians of there Side

As within

J: L:

ADDRESSED: The Honourable Coll William Johnson
at Mount Johnson

FROM THOMAS BUTLER AND TO GEORGE CLINTON

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:591, is a letter of September 3d from Thomas Butler, at Oswego, to Johnson, relating to a harangue by which the governor of Three Rivers incited Canadian Indians against the New Englanders; and p. 592-93, a letter of the 14th from Johnson to George Clinton, treating of French attempts to stir up the Indians against the Nova Scotia settlers, efforts put forth at Niagara to draw Indian trade away from Oswego and dissatisfaction of the Five Nations with the imposing of duties on the liquor trade.

FROM JOHN AYSCOUGH¹

A. L. S.

*Fort George, 8th Sep^r 1750*S^R

His Excellency has laid your accounts before the Assembly, with other Provincial Debts, which are referred to a Committee of the whole house. They yesterday made a New Resolve, that

¹ Sheriff of New York county, 1746-53. Many of the letters from Governor Clinton to Johnson are in his hand.

no Accounts be received, without being sworn to, the time when, place where the Services were performed, and by whose order; So that he thinks it of the utmost Consequence, that you come down, with as much expedition as possible, for he does not know how to proceed on your Accounts so as to get your money paid, unless you are on the Spot.

The Bill for the supplying of Oswego is ready to pass and his Excellency is greatly surprized, that Mr Petre is not come down, or left any orders for somebody to transact his affairs in order to get what is due to him on that Account. I am Sr

Your most humble and very Obedient Servant

J. AYSCOUGH

P S: If Mr Petre does not care to continue supplying the Garrison of Oswego he desires you will recommend some other person

ADDRESSED: On his Majesty's Service
 To Coll W^m Johnson
 at Mount Johnson
 To the Care of Coll Lydius
 at Albany

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: 7^{br}. 8th.
 1750

FROM JOHN LINDESAY

A. L. S.

Oswego 20th Sept^r. 1750

SIR

I did my Self the favour to write you by Cap^t. Butler to w^h. I refer you, I give you the trouble of this, again to entreat you to buy me a Negroe winch & send her as soon as possible, ther is no woman here to assist or serve my wife & as she is on of y^e best am not able to see her undergo what she does at present, So if non can't be bought here on for a twelve month my wife is seekly and needs on to attend her rather than to be obliged to

serve herself & oth^{rs} I can have no pace in my mind untill I get her a Servant I hope Need say no more Some days ago dyed At Annadaga Canossidego our best & treuest friend whose death will be a great Loss I am informed of this by a Message from y^e Castel & a Letter from Conrat Wieser which I send you Inclosed that you may know his bussiness, I answered his Letter & sent to y^e Castell a blankete of strouds & a white blankete a Cage of Rum in y^e Go^{rs} & your name to Condole Canossidegoss death & wipe off their tears Some time ago dyed Sadeganaughte & I neamed in his Place Sachanha a treu Indian who hates y^e. french and hath as many under his Com^d. as any of y^e five Nations this pleased much all our friends in y^e Castel as Cap^t Stevens Can inform you & would have wrote to you of it but Left it to him, I wish this Indian Place may be filled up soon that the french doe it not first which they have oft done to our Loss I hope you have or will soon send H^k [Hasen?] up with a batoe & those things I wrote for and Expect from Mr Peters Please send 4 Duzens mens shoes I shall send down y^e mens notts by Cap^t Stodart to y^e value [£?] 130 My wife sends her respects to you & has sent you a Cage of Salmond & hopes to send you an oth^r I am respectfully Sir

Your Honours most obliged & most obedient Ser^t

JOHN LINDESAY

pray send me 3 or 4 botles of Thurletons Botles it hath been of great Service to my wife & me
a brother of John Curs is here & is to goe Live this winter at y^e Senecas & hath a Present of 2000 Crowns in goods to give our Indians

ADDRESSED: The Honourable

Coll William Johnson

at Mount Johnson

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

A. L. S.

<Fort George, 24th Sept^r 1750>S^R

Yours dated 14th Inst I have received. As it is a profound secret what they are doing in the House, I can not possibly think what will be done in your accounts; But this I hear that instead of allowing you Interest for your money, so long expended, they are curtailing them near a Thousand pounds; in order to prevent this I have no need to tell you how necessary your presence is, and hope you will be as Expeditious as possible.

The reason why the Doctor wrote to you to recommend a Person in the room of M^r Petre, was, his saying (when down here last) that it was impossible for him to continue it, as he laid out of so much Money, and should be obliged to take up some on Interest, and his not being down here, or at least to have got somebody to have solicited for him; so that I had partly agreed with Tedy McGin & his Brother in Law for the Contract for Oswego; But on the receipt of yours last night I altered my opinion & purpose to continue M^r Petre on your recommendation.

The Speaker told me that there was Money enough in the Treasury to answer all the Oswego demands, upon which I sent Mr Banyar with your four Warrants, to tender them to the Treasurer for payment, which he absolutely refused. I had no other design in this than to prove the <Treasurer a Lyer, as he had endeavored to fling ye blame on me for> want of granting Warrants, <for y^e Petre was no more> then y^r Servant & y^e Speaker told me so, & y^t the Warrants should have been made out in y^r Name. I have just sent to ye Speaker to Continue him.

What I mentioned to you the 16th August is actually on y^e Acc^{ts} by me & certainly in y^e letter I sent you up in May last from Catherwood he takes notice of y^e 480th, & of your repaying it me as it was one of y^e Stoppiges upon me. In y^e Same

letter if I mistake not he gives you joy of all y^e acc^{ts} being passed & Mentions to you Something of what passed ab^t y^e Councillors Ship & Holland but upon the first letter I writt to him again to explain it & may expect an Answer by Knox more fully.

I am surprized you don't come down & look into y^e large concerns depending, I cannot assist you for I dont know one Syllible of what passes but what I see in their Votes, & I wist by their Setting so long without anyone act y^t Synifies a rush to their Country they are at underhand hatching Some vile action, but they have used me so much to their Billingsgate language that I am prepared & shall only dispise them & their Crew.

You shoud come down to be sworn into ye Council as I have received y^e Mandamus as Councill besides all friends woud be glad to see as particulary

Your Sincere friend & humble Servant

G. CLINTON

To COLL JOHNSON

TO GEORGE CLINTON¹

7br 25th 1750

May it please Your Excellency

This is to acquaint Your Excellency that the Bearers hereof are two English men belonging to Pennsylvania Government and as they were trading among the Indians of Ohio River last Summer as usual were taken Prisoners by Seven Indians Sent by the Commanding Officer of De Troit for Said Purpose and by him detained ever Since the beginning of last June, it plainly Appears by all the Circumstances that he the Said Officer Sent the Indians to take or destroy what English Men they could meet, as the Indians told those Young Men so, and shewed them

¹ Attested copy in Historical Society of Pennsylvania. Printed without postscript and indorsement in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:599-600.

the Amunition Tobacco &c^a. w^{ch}. the Said Officer gave them for their Journey, and when they brought Said Prisoners to him, he was very thankfull, and rewarded them well, which Said Prisoners were Eye Witness to. He being relieved by another Officer, took those two Prisoners with him, in order to bring them to Quebeck, but they luckily made their Escape from him, half way between Niagara and Oswego, from whence they came to me quite in a miserable naked Condition. they Say the French are making all the preparation Possible, against the Spring, to destroy Some Nations of Indians very Steadfast in our Interest, which if they Succeed in, will be of very bad consequence, they mett in the lake ten or twelve large Battoes laden with Stores and Amunition for Said purpose, with whom were Several Officers, in particular two Sons of one of their Lieutenant Governors, whom I Suppose to be Mons^r. Longquilles Sons. Certainly they have Something in Agitation which they want to put into Execution as Soon as they can, having Accounts from Several hands lately which Corroborate. those two men Say that the French at De Troit and thereabout, have offered and given Some Indians great presents to go and take or destroy one M^r. Crochan, and Lawrie, two of the chief men who trade from Pennsylvania, and have the most Influence on all Indians living there abouts, of any that ever went among them, or in all likelyhood ever may. Should they Succeed therein it would certainly be a great Step towards their gaining them Indians, who are as Yet very Strongly attached to the British Interest, and Double the Number of the five Nations. moreover if the French go on So, there is no man can be Safe in his own house, for I can at any time get an Indian to kill a Man for paying of him a Small matter; their going on in that manner is worse than a open War. Jean Ceur whom I mentioned to Your Excellency Some time Ago is now gone among Said Ohio Indians in order to Spirit them up against the English. I wish he may meet with his proper Desert. I hope Your Excellency will pardon my troubling You with So long a detail of this kind. but as I thought it my Duty to acquaint You of every thing may come to my Knowledge, relating to the Serv-

ice of the Province, hope You will Excuse it, and believe me to be with all Sincerity and Esteem

Sir Your Excellency's most Obedient Servant

WILLIAM JOHNSON

P. S. I should have been to wait on Your Excellency long ago but was much out of order as was most of my Family having Eleven Sick at once with a Violent Cold and Sore throat which raged here very much.

New York a true Copy Exam^d. by

G^w BANYAR D SECRY

INDORSED: Copy Collonel William Johnson's Letter to Governor Clinton by two of the Inhabitants of Pennsylvania who had made their Escape from the French. Dated 25th. Sep^r 1750

FROM PETER KALM

A. L.

[*New York? September 1750*]

DEAR SIR

it has been my duty, Dear Sir, before I went from Albany, to return you my humble thanks for your particular favour towards me; but, Sir, I most humble beg pardon, that I did not perform it there; I did not forget it, but had it in a fresh memory; but I was so weary of the country of the Jews, that I could not give me any rest either day or night, before I could come from thence: every hour of the last days I was in Albany I thought was a day, and a day was almost a year for me: and when at last that happy moment came, that I got upon my horse to go from thence, I thought that my body has taken a burthen from my back: that was heavier than all the Blew mountains together: a Deer, that has had the unhappiness to come in the middle of the Dogs, can never be so glad, when it has got away many miles from them in the middle of the wood, that I yet had a much greater joy of my happiness: I thought that nothing now was

more wanting in my gladness; but a new sorrow did darken my heart, when I remembered that you, Dear Sir, yet did live as a David in the tents of Kedar, & as a child of israel in the middle of the Sons of Enakim, where the most, if not all, which on all sides live round about you, look upon you with a more sower eye & darker face, than a bull can do: I wonder, Sir, that you dont grow ten times sick in a day in a such place: for me, I have now got my former health, since I came back to the Christian people. Yesterday I came to this town, but as my things, that were to be sent with the Sloop from Albany, are not yet come here, I shall not know how soon I shall leave this town; I hope yet it shall be in two or three days.

As the Ship I thought to go with from Philadelphia to London is to sail in 10 days time from hence, & I for my things that are not come down, not can come from hence, so I shall be obliged to differ my journey home to the month of January or February, because it will now be too late for me to go home to Sweden this fall.

I do inclose here a letter to Mr. Printop; the matter is a trifle in it self; but as Mr. Van Wandel did charge me with 18 shillings, which I was obliged to pay to him, & I had paid them before to Mr. Printop, I am in darkness which of the two are to be blamed. you will find it plainer of the Letter, which I have left open; either Printop or Wandel has plaid a Dutch trick up on me. I will not think that Printop at his going from Oswego wanted some money to pay any thing he has taken, he knew that I then did own money to him. it is for me impossible to say by which is the fault; Mr. Van Wandel I look upon as the most honest man; & Mr. Printop did behave himself in the journey always in a such manner as I ever could wish. I do leave the 18 shillings to him that has got them; I have got satisfaction [enough?] if I can know by whom they are. But I have considered the things: I will [forget?] it; dont tell him any thing thereof; nine shillings are not so much worth to make any noise about; may be he would grow angry upon me; I will not send

any letter to him; I shall yet let you see the letter,¹ because it is written; but, pray, burn it [since?] you have read it.

Please, Sir, be pleased to let the seeds of Fol avoine which Captain Lindsey was to let be gather'd about Oswego, be sent with your things to Messrs Baker in London, where Mr. Abraham Spalding or I can have them, & pay the freight.

FROM JOHN B. VAN EPS

D. S.²

Octbr. 3^d. 1750³

Then rec^d. of William Johnson the Sum of Six Pound Eleven shillings in full of Accounts to this Ins^t. as Witness my hand

JOHN B: VAN EPS

£6 . 11 . —

TO DAVID JONES

A. Df. S.

<M^t J. 8^{br}. 16th 1750>

SIR

Y^r favour of the 4th Curr^t. I rec^d 2 days ago and agreeable to the orders of the house have with all Convenient dispatch made out an Acc^{tt} of the dispositions of that Sum of money paid me by Mess^{rs} Tenyke & Dow in August 1749, w^h I hope may prove Satisfactory to the House. What I've been obliged to advance to the four Ind^{ns} at their return may perhaps Seem extravagant, to those who may not be acquainted wth the Humour, or nature of Ind^{ns} but give me leave to assure you Sir, thy are farr from resting Content wth w^t thy had from me telling me thy expected

¹ This letter is not found.

² Document is in handwriting of Johnson.

³ In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:597, is a letter of October 12th from the lords of trade to the Duke of Bedford mentioning Johnson's information as to the attempts made by the French to destroy Indian nations friendly to the English; p. 597, is mention of Johnson's information in a letter of October 15th from the lords of trade to George Clinton.

Something Considerable for their Loyalty, long Suffering, & absence from their familys. Notwithstanding I did not care to advance them any more, least it might be thought Ill of. W^h I have always endeavoured to prevent, by using all possible frugality and as my takeing that trouble upon me was purely to Serve the Country, without any Sinister view, all my desire is that it may meet with the approbation of the House, than w<h> nothing could give me a more sinsible pleasure Who am wth much Esteem

Sr Yr Most. H S.

W^m JOHNSON

DAVID JONES Esqr <Speak>er of the General Assembly <for the Pr>ovince of New York.

TO GEORGE CLINTON

A. Df. S.

Novbr. the 6th. 1750

In Obedience to Yr. Excellencys orders [Signified?] me by your letter of the 19th. Ult^o. I have with much difficulty prevailed wth a Smith to go to the Onondaga's Castle, being so late in the Season as to render it verry disagreeable, as well as difficult there is one Myndert Wemp gone to the Seneca's Castle Some time ago, wth. all his Tools &ca in Expectation it would be allowed of. So that now I have only to Send him the fifty pound for the present and his Instructions. Tiddy M^c.Ginn has importuned me much to acquaint y^r. Excellency of his inclination of takeing a trip to Canada if y^r. Excellency would be pleased to give him a pass port. I am wth. all due respect Imaginable Yr. Excellency's. &ca.

W. JOHNSON

P S: inserted this, that there will be some expence attending my resignation w^h. I think should not be born by me, but that (along with the rest) I leave to Yr. Excellenceys Consideration

P S. The Man whom I sent to Ondaga is named W^m Printup one of the best Workmen in the Country. and the fittest person

could be found to Send there as he is verry much looked upon by S^d. Nation, on Acc^t. of his Father haveing lived among them Severall Years in the Countrys Service. he also talks the Indian language best of any in the Province.

Gov^R. CLINTON

Copia Vera

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Coppy of a Letter
to Gov^r. Clinton
Novbr. 6th. 1750

FROM DAVID JONES

A. L. S.

New York, 20th November 1750

SIR

The House have allow'd You the Sum <of £686 — 11 — 4 for> Provisions Supply'd by you for the Militia & additional Number of regular Forces posted at Oswego from the 15th of May 1748 to the 15th of November following & have made a further Provision for what was directed to be paid You by a former Act, which You have not yet receiv'd by Reason of the Dificiency of the Fond out of which You was then to be paid. What is due to You for supplying Provisions for the Ordinary Garrison of 25 Men, the House expects you to be paid out of the Oswego Dutys. The other Articles of your Account for furnishing Provisions are postpon'd untill you Sattisfie the House in Relation to an Information which they have receiv'd that You procur'd from Captⁿ Visser a Certificate for Provisions which were never sent, and that you paid him £25 for the said Certificate; the House expects You to clear up this Point at their next Meeting I am S^r

Y^r most humble Serv^t

DAVID JONES

ADDRESSED: To Coll William Johnston
at Mount Johnston
in the County of Albany

FROM RICHARD MILLER

A. L. S.

Albany 29th..Novembr. 1750

S^R

I Received Yours of Last Satterdey and Shall forward the Letter by the first oppertunity to Cap^t Chew tho not any oppertunity at present the first that goes Shall acquaint you with I Send you by Sander Van Eps 18 Trapps Cost 10/ Each and Seven pair of yarn hose Cost 8 ^h of Leather Jacob Banthousen is In New York waiting for the arrivel of Cap^t. Matched who is not arrived as yet So Cannot Inform you the price of Leather at New York the Soldiers Bills Lies Just the Same way Coll^o. Marchill promised me he would pay his Bills when Cap^t Hogan Came up who Lies at the west Camp but there is no trust to be put In that he will pay it as for Major Clark he will not allow that twenty four pounds for the 2 men that are at Oswego Major Clark and Mr Lindsey having a Discount betwixt them as for the money of the other three I have It in my hands I have had no oppertunity to Send Down your letters nor Dont Know that there will be any untill the post goes but If any Should offer Sooner Shall take Care to forward your Letters. I have not heard that you Receed them 23 blanckits which I had from Mr Van Schoick and the 2 p^s Strouds Sent at the Same time my wife and family Joyns me In thir Best Respeckts to You and pleas to Except of the Same from S^r.

Your ashured frind and humbl^e Serv^t

RICH^d MILLER

To COLL^o. JOHNSON

P S I Send you Some Letters by Sanders which Came from Ne[] by Cap^t Hogan
[]s as before

R M

ADDRESSED: To The Honourb^{le} Coll^o. William Johnson
att Mount Johnson

TO CAPT.—LEWIS

A. D.

Memorandum for Capt Lewis

- 1 piece brown Sheeting
- 1 piece dark blue
- 1 " brown } Rattinet
- 1 " dark Green Durant
- 1 " dark blue Taborett
- 1 dozen black Worsted Mitts
- 1 dozen leather Colour'd D^o
- 1 dozen Mens Worsted hose ab^t 70/
- 1 dozen d^o fine Ribb^d d^o ab^t 90/
- 2 th Cloth Coloured Silk
- 1/2 th black coarse d^o
- 1 doz Coarse Stockings yarn about 24/
- 1 th Twist Cloth Colours
- 4 doz Coarse Combs
- 2 doz Silk Handkerchiefs
- 1 doz blk
- 1 dozⁿ. Woolen Caps
- [1 dozⁿ. Cotton "]
- 1 p^s. dark blue Durant
- 6 Bladders Snuff Maxwells or Liepers
- 1-28 th Sealed
- An Assortment of hatts
- An Assortment of Handkfs 2 dozen like John Norris
- 1 p^s. Millenett
- Callico Stormont Ground
- 1 dozⁿ. Snuff Boxes Japan'd
- 1 " Tobacco " " } Cheapest
- 2 Boxes Candles — 1 box of Soap
- 1/2 p^s. blue Cox Comb
- Indigo of Allum

Copper as

Red Wood

3 dozen Cuttean Knives from Mr Robertson of 8/

40 ⁿ large } English

30 ⁿ small } Wire

Samples Inclosed

2 pieces blk Mode ab^t 4/ or 4/6 a square

2 dozen black barcelona Handkerchiefs

ab^t 70/ 1 dozen ab^t 110/

Yellow Common buttons

" Dble Gilt Buttons

1 Gross large Moulds

Some linnens from 2/6 To 3/ price

a Stone for a hearth five feet Six Inches long one foot Eleven
Inches & half broad

a back & bottom of The fire place to be one Inch thick

1 p^s. Embor^d. Serge to be exchange for Velvet

1 p^s. Callico

Compasses

41 ⁿ Ginsang

1 dozⁿ. Brooms & 1 Shovel, honey, Starch & Chesnuts to Mr^s.
Willett

2 dozen Scissars

1 pair for The Shop large & Good

an Assortment of buckles high priced

3 dozen brass d^o ab^t 12/ ② Dozen

delivered Cap^t Lewis

14 barrells Pearl Ashes

1 barrell Pot Ash

To pay Classon £24 0 0

17 Casks flax Seed

44 ⁿ. bees Wax

63 bushell Wheat

41 ⁿ. Ginseng

5 pearl	£6	£30	0	0	
1 pott		6	5	0	Neilson
17 Cask flax Seed		50	0	0	

£86 5 0

Cash £80 delivered
draft 50 on the Gov^r
Sent £11 by John Norris

Mr Bruces Note	£ 4	0	0
9 pearl Ashes	54	0	0
63 bushell Wheat	22	0	0
44 ^h Bees Wax	4	10	0
Staves	30	0	0

£114 10 0

24

£86 10 0

FROM JOHN AYSCOUGH

A. L. S.

[*New York, December 19, 1750¹*]

Your Favour of 6th Ins^t and [] Nov^{br}, inclosing
Mr Petre's Certificate, which [] be taken care of to
procure a Warrant.

I this day went with your Order to the Treasuer, for the
Moneys allotted you, by the Act of Assembly for payment of
the Province Debts the whole Allowance for you is £ 1,193:7:4:
which he will pay me to morrow in the afternoon, the disposal
of which shall be punctually observed

¹ In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:604, is a letter of December 19th from George Clinton to the lords of trade in which Johnson is quoted with respect to the plate of lead on which the French claim to the Ohio river and the lands about it was inscribed.

I tendered your four Warrants for Oswego, of £ 228: each, and desired his possitive Answer which was, that the Oswego Fund was deficient £600, which he had advanced himself upon it and that of Consequence he could not pay it, 'till a Sum Sufficient on that Act came into the Treasury, as it is from that Fund they are to be paid.

By this Sr you will perceive the necessity there was of your being down in the Sessions, and how far your new Friends in the Assembly served you, acording to their promise, But of this I have given you former hints. His Excellency I assure you had your Interest greatly at heart, but every thing transacted in the Assembly was a Profound Secret to him, and he knew nothing till he saw it in their Votes, or what I pickt up from the Members I conversed with, which I wrote you word of formerly. I am Sr in great truth

Your most Obedient Ser^t

J AYSCOUGH

COLL JOHNSON

TO GEORGE CLINTON

A. Df. S.

[December 20, 1750]

[May it please Y^r Excellency]

This is the first opertunity I've had of [acknow]ldging the receipt of y^r. Excellencys favours of the [] 20th. of last Month. by w^h. I am sorry to hear [] treatment your Excellency meets with from the Assembly [] regard to the Expences of the French Flags of Truce. The most out of the way thing ever was known & poor Encouragement for future Service. Y^r. Excellenceys Surmise wth regard to my Affairs (before the House) was verry right, for I find they have not made provision for half the Expences attended the French Parties, who were maintained, lodged, & transported backward, & forward, on my Credit; and is too great a hardship on me to pay together wth. the loss of time trouble, and travilling Expences

I was att, to wait upon them, and yet pay it I will to a penny as the People would not lodge them or Serve them in any Shape wthout my promiseing payment Now I should be glad of y^r. Excellency's advice in the Affair as I am quite at a loss how to act therein, Consistant with Honour, or Credit of the Province. w^h. (were it not for one principall Motive) I have really no reason to be tender of I am much oblinded to y^r. Excellency for the Hint You were pleased to give me of the necessity of applying speedily for what Sums were allowed me. and have accordingly given Orders to My friend Doctor Ascoug to receive the Same as Y^r. Excellency is pleased to observe, the objections made by the gentlemen of the Council to Some of those, (at y^r. Request) Mentioned by me, all I shall say in the Affair is, that Lyddius (if I may be allowed to know the Man, and the disposition of the Indians att present) is the fittest in Albany for a Commissioner. Yet, as Y^r. Excellency finds it would not be agreable. I am quite easy in the affair, & heartily wish those gentlemen [men]tioned, may be enabled to Serve their Country in that Station. As this is (perhaps) the last Piece of Indian News I shall ever have occasion to trouble your Excellency with, I should be very glad if it were made the best use of [*as it is of great Importance to the welfare and hope y^r.¹*] & I am convinced Y^r. Excellency, & Gov^r. Hamilton may by acquainting all the Indians of Ohio & therabouts [easily prevail?] wth. s^d. Indians to prevent the French getting any more footing there [perhaps even?] to dispossess them of what they already have & I flatter myself that what I have already Said to the five Nations about it will be of [] service, if not entirely oversett the Frenchs present Scheme w^h. is to build tradeing Houses & garrisons att all the Passes and carrying Places between Said River & Osswego, [y^r. Excell^y may [] a French officer, & interpreter Jean Cour[] the five Nations this Summer when on his Journey thither at the Same time asking their Consent, adding that as it was for their Ease, and benefitt,

¹ Words in italics and within brackets are erased in original manuscript.

by preventing their great labour, in carrying their goods over S^d. Carrying places He did not doubt of their compliance to w^h. thy would make no Ans^r. er'e thy spokē with me, and know what was wrote on this leaden Plate w^h. they by some artifice gott from S^d. Cour.] As Y^r Excellency will perceive by the Inclosed Ind^a. Speech made by a Cajuga Chief, who untill last Summer was intirely in the French Interest. when I took him in hand he fairly owned it, & the reason he gave me was, that the French he thought were a more warlike people than we, and being the Head Warriour of the five Nations himself, Said he had a veneration for all those of his own disposition. besides thy always used him better by farr than our People, untill such time as he got acquainted with me. whence commenced his friendship for us, w^h. I have been at a great deal of pains, & Expence to Cultivate, but I assure Y^r. Excell^{cy}. it was well bestowed, for there is not a Man in the five Nations has more Young Men at Command, nor readier to Serve Our Interest in every Shape than he is now. and will ever continue so, if not ill used. His reason for undertakeing this Journey in so bad a Season, was only to Convince me (as he Said) of the sincerity of his engagements to me w^h. I realy look upon as a great Instance of his fidelity I should be verry glad Y^r. Excellency would please to bestow some marks of y^r. favour on him, when you see him at Albany. I have agreeable to Y^r. Excellencys Instructions, given Arent Stevens Notice to have the Ind^{as} at Albany Early in the Spring which he promised me he would. If I [ma]y be allowed to give my opinion In the affair, I would not advise y^r. Excellency to call any more Indians, than the Sachims & Head Warriours of every Nation for Calling the rest is only expensive, and troublesome & not of the least Service [for] thy have nothing to Say [¹] Waggons would [] that Sum [] given properly to [] of greater Service than Y^r. Excell[ency]]

¹Several lines missing.

there is one thing more w^h. I must [] Excellency of. and do assure You S^r. that nothing [] daily reflections of the Indians could move me to it. that [] there being so few Men at their Castle, or Mohawk garrison & them such poor helpless creatures, that they (speaking most favourably) are really unfit for an out garrison: I am much obliged to y^r. Excellency for the Honour designed me, & do assure You S^r. that nothing could give me a more sensible pleasu[re] than haveing the Honour of makeing a Member of Your Excellency's Club. w^h. I find is composed of all those whom I most esteem, & toast Constantly. I hope M^{rs}. Rodda[m]¹ has gott the better of her disorder, w^h. I should be verry glad to hear. I Sincerely wish y^r. Excellency, M^{rs}. Clinton & Family the Compliments of the Season, and am with all respect Imaginable Y^r Excellencys Most

W. J: ———

TO GOVERNOUR CLINTON

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Coppy of a letter
to Gov^r. Clinton
Decbr. 20th. 1750

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

A. L. S.

[*New York, January 16, 175[0/1]*²]

SIR

You may remember that the £1400 which I lent to you upon your Single note; without Interest, about two years ago, you promised Should be paid to me out of the money you received

¹ Daughter of Clinton and wife of Captain Robert Roddam, of the man-of-war, "Greyhound."

² In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:608-11, are printed a letter of January 17th from Clinton to the lords of trade relating to one of the leaden plates of Céloron de Bienville; an account of a conference between Johnson and a Cayuga sachem, December 4, 1750, touching the plate; and a copy of the plate, accompanied by the translation.

from the Assembly, in payment of what was [du]e to you from this Province. Now as Doctor Ayscough has received upwards of £1100 for you in part of your Said due, I was in hopes you would have ordered him to pay it to me in part of your Said Note; but he tells me you have ordered him to send it up to you. I doubt not the occasion is very urgent; that has obliged you to apply that Money another way; But with justice to my self and Family, I think I cannot Suffer so large a Sum, to remain longer out without Interest, and on so small a Security as a Note of hand, and I doubt not but you will agree with me in opinion I ought not.

Wherefore inclosed I send you a Bond to be Executed by you to me, for the Said Sum, bearing Interest, which be pleased to Execute before Two Witnesses of good Credit, whose hands are known in this place; and send it down to some freind of yours here, to whome I shall deliver up your Note, on his delivering to me that Bond. I have not inserted a day of payment in the Bond, not doubting your payment thereof, assoon as Conveniently you can do it; and I am sure it is far from my inclination to straiten you to do it sooner. being very Sincerely your faithfull freind and Servant

G: CLINTON

To WILLIAM JOHNSON Esq^r.

FROM CONRAD WEISER¹

A. L. S.

Philadelphia february, the 8 1750/51

KIND SIR

I take this Opportunity to acquaint you that I undertooke a Journey to the Indians of the 6 united nations at the request of the Governor of pensilvania to give them a Small present to Signyfy to them that this Government do condole with them for the loose of Canasakgo and others. according to the Custom of that people. the Kindness I received from your hand meself and

¹ Official interpreter of Pennsylvania.

good report of you, gives me room to ask your advise in time about the matter. Whether you think best that I should go quite to Onondago or meet the Indians at your house (in their way to Albany to met the Governor of New-york) or in Albany. and whatever you advise to be best I will do, the goods for that purpose I shall pay at your Store and must therefore desire you to provide Such as will Suit best. I think I shall want to the value of about one hundred pounds, I am not Sure whether the Governor of pensilvania or any Comissioners will Come to the next treaty at Albany. because the affair lies yet before the house of the Representatives of this province and their answer will determine the affair.

Our good friend Coll^l Lee¹ the president of Virginia died in October last before he received my Journal and report I made to him from my Journey to Onondago. which I think is a very great lost to us as he was a man who had the Indians affairs much at heart, as well as the good of the public in General. I hope the dead of that great and good man in those affairs will not discourage you in your negotiations about the peace between ours and the Southern Indians he that will succeed him will no doubt folowing the formers Steps, as it is a thing of great Importance to the Back Inhabitants of Pensilia. Maryland and Virginia, and I Can assure you that this Government will do all what lies in their power to assist in the whole affair. After my hearty Salutation to you I Subscribe meself with Sincerity Sir

Your very humble Servant

CONRAD WEISER

P. S. I beg the favour of you to let my Brother in law Nicklas Pickert know of my Coming my time is so Short I Cant write to him

ADDRESSED: To Coll^l Will^m: Johnson
at Mount Johnsons
in the County of Albany
Forwarded by His Excellency Gov^r Clinton.

¹ Thomas Lee, born about 1702, died in 1750.

FROM WARREN JOHNSON

A. L. S.

*Waterford Feby 14th 1750/1*D^R BRO:

the last letter I wrote you was about a Month ago, inclosed to Mr Baker which I hope will get Safe to your hands as it Mentioned a little of our Family affair's, & by the time you'll get this you'll receive Several letter's from my Father, Bro: & Friends in this Country, by Mr Mathew Ferrell, who was obliged to give up Buissness & advised by our Friends in the County Meath to go to you for your protection & hope you'll shew him some Countenance upon her Account. She's now Settled with my Father & Sir Peter Allowe's her 20[£] a year. My Dear Brother I do assure you nothing can give me a more real happiness in this World than to hear often from you, & believe me you have my constant prayers for your Welfare & prosperity, as we can't be so fortunate as to see one another, Sure nothing can equal the joy of hearing often from one's dearest friend, but long is the time since I had a Line from you. I now send a Duplicate as I fear you have not receiv'd what letter's I wrote you. I shall inclose them to Mr Baker & direct them to be forward'd to you by Mr John Watts at N: York which is according to your desire in about two Months we shall have a ship from here to Philadelphia, by which I hope to send some Map's & things to you I am just return'd from Smithstown where I have been for five days to see my friends, who are very well thank God my bro: Jack is Removing to Warrenstown with his little Family to Settle by Sir Peter's desire who I hope will be a Good friend to him, he's return'd from London but two Months where he has been about Sir Peter's Affairs: so that at Smithstown my Father has with him my Sist^{rs} Ferrell Fanny & Polley & I have given them all the advice in my power to study his will & be a Comfort to him in his old age. I thank God I never saw him in better Health & Spirits. Your letter which he has rec^d has added much to them. I had a letter yesterday from Capt. Tyrrell who intended

Sailing for Antigua, as a Passenger in seven days after that. We expect Sir Peter here in April I hope he'll Come & wish he may do Something for the two unmarried Girls. Jack is to hold all Warrenstown at 280[£] a year in Lieu of my Father's part of it he gives a 100[£] yearly which is better for him. As for my own part I am likely to Continue as I am peaceable times, no money; Interest, nor friends Consequently can't expect to rise. Sir Peter is to be sure is the Best of friends & I am for ever bound to him for his Goodness to me. but I believe he will not ask any favour of this Ministry nor can I hope he'll purchase for me, which is the only way now to get preferment. I might the other day be Major to the Regt. I am now in if I had had but a 1000[£] & Sir Peter to say one word in it which woud be a fine prospect for a Young fellow of my year's, but I sincerely wish for a War to be some thing More or not in this Life I fear I have quite tired you. so must Conclude by wishing you Success in all your undertakings & pray to God to preserve you to be a greater honour to your friends I am my Dr Bro

your's Most Affectionately

WARREN JOHNSON

Duplicate

COL. JOHNSON

TO GEORGE CLINTON

A. Df. S.

[*February 21, 1750/1*]

[May it Please Your Excellency]

I am not at all Unmindfull of the Kindness [] me in lending me that Sum on my bare note without Interest, than which nothing (but the Injustice done me) could have drove me to that necessity as I belive your Excellency may be sensible of. I Assure Y^u. Sr. it was my intention (at the time I borrowed S^d. Sum) to repay it with thanks out of the first Money I rec^d. from the Treasurer. as Y^r. Exc^y. may Judge by my leaveing the Warrants there but as thy have so unexpectedly & shamefully

allowed so Inconsiderable a Sum for discharging the many Debts I've Contracted on Acc^{tt}. of the Province, by y^r. orders I was obliged to draw for it to Stop their Daily Dunning me. As Nothing Else, I assure You S^r. could have Induced me to draw for Said Money out of y^r. Hands, I hope Y^r. Excellency will Judge of it in a more favorable light, than I find You have [*and not insist on my executeing a Bond, w^h. I will with pleasure do if Your Excellency Continues to think this*¹] and pleass to accept the Inclosed Order on the Treasurer [*for Sufficient is above two Years due, As I belive Y^r. Excelley may remember there was the Sum of £2138 ordered me I Rec^d. £646 out of that, so there rem^s. of S^d. Sum besides Interest the Sum Mentioned in the Order*] which I expect. He will pay on demand being above 2 Years Since it was allowed me but if not, and Y^r. Excellency should still Insist on my giving a Bond I will do it. I find there is an Act passed for preventing any person whatsoever to Sell any Indian Merchandize liable to Dutys to any Indians w^t. soever, & even to Christians (except what is requisite for their Familys Use) without paying Dutys, as well as if Sent to Osswego.² That is what I made bold to acquaint Your Excellcy. of Some time ago, & was in hopes it would not pass, from the Assurances You were pleased to give me [I] must beg leave to Assure Your Excellency there nev[] so disagreeable to the [] much more so to the Indians who must [] in generall. it is always the [] that goods are too dear, but how much [] so now [] Excellency to Judge. I am wth. great respect []

Y^r. Excellenceys Most

Obed^t. Humble Serv^t.

W J: ———

To Gov^R. CLINTON.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Feby. 21st. 1750/1
to Gov^r. Clinton

¹ Words in italics and within brackets are erased in original manuscript.

² See *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:750.

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

L. S.¹<Fort George, 20th March 1750[/1]>S^r

Yours of 21st Fe^bry I receiv^d by <Cap^t Stoddert,> and am to acquaint you that the Treasurer accepted your Order to pay it in two Months. I should be glad to know to whom I should return your Note. I can not help saying that I thought it something extraordinary that you should recall the Money out of my hands, after you had engaged to pay me out of the first Money that you did receive from the Treasury, and believe you will be of the same Opinion; But by your last Letter I am fully convinced of the pressing necessity that obliged you to do it, and am very well satisfied.

As to the Act passed this last Sessions, for laying a Duty upon all Goods sold from Albany to Oswego, it was brought to the Council the very last Act and so hurried on, that I but just saw it before it passed,² and as there was no Objections to it by either the Schenectady or Albany Members and you not present (to which and only which I attribute all the ill Treatment offered to you by the Assembly, notwithstanding so many repeated Sollicitations) was the occasion of it's passing; But if you can prevail on those Members to move next Session for an Amendment or Alteration of that Clause, which is so detrimental to <the Indians, it> shall readily have my assent and Assistance.

I flattered myself that you would <have> continued the Management of Indian Affairs, at least, till I had the pleasure of seeing you at the next meeting at Albany, notwithstanding the Assembly's curtailing your Accounts (which I assure you, I did my utmost to prevent, even to my own Detriment. For if you will recollect I always paid all Accounts or Allowances charged by you, without objecting to any one Article; and those sent home

¹ Body of letter in handwriting of John Ayscough.

² November 24, 1750.

were likewise allowed of, without any deduction to you; while my own were cut short by some Thousand Pounds from the General Account, that I can not say from any particular. This I hope would have induced your continuance, which if not it must greatly embarrass me till Commissioners can be appointed for that Service. I am, S^r

your very humble Servant

G. CLINTON

The HON^{BLE} W^M. JOHNSON Esq^r.

ADDRESSED: To Will^m Johnson Esq^r.

FROM SAMUEL CRAMER

A. L. S.

New York March the 20th 1750/51

SIR

The return of my Friend Capt: Stoddard, furnishes me with the opportunity of Paying my respects to you, by whom, I was agreeably informed you were well, our being under Sailing orders for England makes it a matter of uncertainty wither I may have the pleasure of seeing you, at the ensuing Congress: which would be of a verry singular satisfaction to me. I hope the favour I herein solicit as my acquaintance with you is verry recent, will not seem impertinent, at Least I flatter myself from the general charrecter of your Inclinations to oblige & the Civilities I experienced in my short stay with you it will not. a Friend of mine in England whose Turn is a good deal to Curiositys desires I may bring him some from these Parts I remember when I had the pleasure of being at Mount Johnston you mentiond a piece of Ingenuity that rested with some of the Indians in your Neighbourhood which was an excellence they Poss[ess]ed in carveing a true representation or figure of themselves in their Proper Hunting Habits & their Bodys &ct Decorated in a Warlike manner both Sexes in their Different apparells if it is in your Power to help me to & Emblem of that kind in both Sexes within a moderate

purchase you will extremely oblige me with my Sincere wishes
for your Health & Happiness I am Sir

Your Most Humble Serv^t

SAMUEL CRAMER

TO GEORGE CLINTON

Df.

[*Mount Johnson, March 29, 1751*]

[May it Please Your Excellency]

I rec^d your Excell^{cy}s. favour of the 20th Curr^t by []
Stevens. & am glad to find therby that your Excellen^{cy}s. in a
fair way of being paid that Sum you were pleased to advance
me. w^h. should have been done long ago had I common Justice
done me. If your Excell^{cy}. will but recollect, w^t. you were
pleased to acquaint me in y^{rs}. of the 20th. Novb^r. last concerning
Commiss^{rs}. my giveing up the Indⁿ. Affairs will then appear
reasonable to You, for I am sure I Judged by what you then
wrote me y^t. you would Imediately appoint Commiss^{rs}. By y^r.
Excell^{cy}s. laying so much weight, on y^e. the payment of my Acc^{ts}.
wth. out objection, it seems as if you suspected me, w^h. I should
be glad to know. I assure you Sir, it gives me no small Satis-
faction to hear from Home, y^t. all my Acct^s. were allowed of
wth. out objection, & such of yours as were vouched by me, As
to endeavour to prevail wth. y^e. Albany or other Members to alter
y^t. Act so prejudicial as well to y^e. Inhabitants of the County, as
to y^e. Indians, as y^r. Excell^{cy}. advises, I must say, I dont think
it is my business at present, as I have nothing further to do wth.
them. any more then I should be Extremely glad to see y^m. made
easy in y^t. point w^h. so sours their temper as to make y^m. Very
uneasy to all their Neighbours if it ends there we may be glad
of it. Your Excell^{cy}. may (when you receive that Sum) inclose
y^e. Note in a letter, to me if you think proper, & y^e. overplus

please to order to be paid to Mr. Hennerly Hansen Merch^t. there whose rec^t. shall be Sufficient for y^e. Same. I have a Considerable large Acc^t. agst. your Excell^{cy}. for y^e. many disbursements. made on Acc^t. of the five Nations since Novbr. 1748 together wth. y^e. Expence of sending Arent Stevens to Oswego wth. a Cargoe of Goods as a present for y^e. forreign Ind^s. in our Interest, by y^r. Excell^{cy}s. orders, w^h. I expected should have been deducted out of that Sum otherwise I would have deliver'd in my Acc^{ts}. before. the reason of my not sending it now is. my Clerk is not at Home. but shall send it soon, & hope y^r. Excell^{cy}. will please to pay it to s^d. Mr. Hanson. & as for my [¹] ll^{cy}. who no doubt remembers [] which was, to Continue y^e. Care of the Indians untill such [] Affair might be Settled att Home. w^h. You said was then on the Carpet & that I should have my pay as Coll^o. continued so long. adding further that I should Act frugally, & wean the Ind^s. from craveing so largely [] in the War. Which I really have done, as much (& more) than any [] Else could have done, As will appear hereafter. the Bearer hereof [] french young Gentleman, Son of Mr. De Quaneay an Eminent Merch^t. in Canada, who has been for these 14 years past at Mississipi, & Illinois from whence he came last fall by the way of Oswego, he has lived ev[er] Since at Mr. Lyddiu's whose wife is his Aunt, or near Relation, he have[ing] an Inclination to settle here, begged I would write a few lines, to acquaint Your Excell^{cy}. of his resolution, hoping to have Your Excell^{cy}s. permission & protection. that thereby he may be enabled to follow Business. I am wth. all due regard Your Excellences

Most Obedient Humble Servant

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Coppy of a letter to
Gov^r. Clinton dated
March the 29th. 1751

¹ One or two lines missing.

TO CONRAD WEISER

A. Df.

[Mount Johnson, April 2, 1751¹]

[SIR]

Your favour of the 8th. of February I did [] receive Untill Yesterday. it was forwarded by Gov^r. Clinton. the government of Pensilvania's resolution to Condole the Loss of Ca[nas]adego &ca is a well Judged thing. as it is a Cerimony always expected by the five Nations to be performed by Us, and what thy look much upon. As you are pleased to rely on my Judgement in that Affair I must Say I think that Ondaga would be the properest place as it would be more thought of there than any where Else & for Severall other reasons too tedious now to mention. Next to that, I think Albany will be the most suitable oportunity. as the Fire is extinguished at my house, that is, thy have no more Councils, or meetings held here, Since I have been oblidge to give up the Management of their Affairs, which I cant help hinting to You gives great Discontent to all the Natio[ns no]twisthstanding all the endeavours Iv'e used to reconcile them to it. but I hope it will wear of by degrees. The chief reason I can assign for it is, their being thoroughly convinced of my inclination always to asist, & Serve them whatever was in my power & that even to the am^t. of a verry considerable Sum, w^h. I can find no likely hood of ever being reimbursed. I am heartily

¹ In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:619, in the remonstrance of the assembly to Governor Clinton, made October 9, 1747, quoted in a representation of April 2, 1751, laid before the privy council by the lords of trade, is a comment on Johnson's contract for supplying the Oswego garrison; p. 628, in a message laid by the governor before the assembly October 13, 1747, quoted by the lords of trade, is a mention of Johnson's Indian influence; p. 638, in the representation of the lords of trade, is praise of Johnson; p. 672, 684, 685, 701, 702, in an abstract of the evidence in the books of the lords of trade relating to New York, are mentions of Johnson.

Sorry for the Loss of that worthy Man Coll^o. Lee, as I am convinced he had the [We]lfare of his Country much at heart. a Character ver[y f]ew here have a claim to (w^h. I [am] sorry for).

As to bringing ab^t. a peace between the Southern Indians, and Six Nations, I can (without ostentation) assure you I brought the latter so farr as left me not the least room to doubt of Success, but now their tempers are so Sowered wth. this change, that all endeavours that way, I fear will prove abortive. I look upon y^r. kind proposal of purchaseing the goods att my Store, as an Instance of y^r. good will towards me w^h. I am much oblidged to you for. If at any time I can render You any Service here, please to command me, who am wth. Sincerity.

P S: I have wrote M^r. Nich^s. Pickard a few lines Yesterday to acquaint him of your coming but could not tell him the time
To CONRADT WEISER Esq^r.

In Pensilvania

FROM JAMES J. ROSS

L. S.

New York: Ap^l. 24: 1751

S^r.

I am favour'd with Yours of the 26th of March wherein you say that in my last there was so many Accusations against you, I can assure you S^r., I never had the least reason to accuse you of any nor I believe any man Else, but suppose you might have given to much Ear to Adams who shows himself to be a wicked leying fellow, having wrote down to taylor to see if he could get him to deny what he told him, so that if you please to Examine him & desire to see Taylors Answer which he has wrote up by John Cunnun Hatter in Skenectedy on seeing it you [] find he insists on his having told him, what I w[rote] you, & further Adams told Said Taylor he would soon s[ee] it to be true by your appointing of another, so that coming about

as he said you may think gives persons unacquainted with the affair Room to think what he said was true, & as for Adams telling you that I was very indifferent whither I [] your Buissness or not he never could see my Indiff[erence] nor no man Else for I can assure you to the Con[trary] for I would have Ventured my own fortune to s[] You by Day or Night & would do it still as there is no man I Value more I always Endeavoured to do your Bussiness in the most effectuall way therefore how could Adems frame so rash a Judgment, but as for Mr Ferrals telling you of my Indifference it's far from that, that he told me you had promised it to him self being a relation of yours, I told him if that was the Case you might if you pleased give it to him if you thought him a fit person or to any one else you thought proper. Sime time Since Mr Farrel applyed to me (on his hearing you were going to Employe Mr. Hanson) to write you in his favour but as I could not think him a fit Prson made mee defer it. Inclosed you have Extract of the Ball^e due me y^e 2nd. of July last & of your New Acc^t There is due me on the whole £230 10^s 8½ on Exam^s. it if you should find any Error please let me know and shall Imediately rectify it. I have a large sum of Money to pay if you can conveniently send me the Ball^e now or against the Middle of May you'll much oblige me, & as you see by the Acc^t there is 38¼ ll old Coat Beaver in my hands please let me know if I shall deliver it to Mr Hanson, or to whom else P[leas]e send me down a Receipt in full of all Acco^{ts}. you send the Ballance & I shall on Receiving the Ball^e send you a Receipt in full I likewise Inclose you the News papers, my Wife Joyns in Service to You & am Sr

Your Friend & most Humbl. Serv^t

JAMES J ROSS

P S

I likewise Inclose you Adams's Account with the costs of the account till now

According to Your order to Mr Miller, []s he writes to me
y^e debt being £21 1 5

Cost of Court	}	4 3 6
till now		

besides the £25 4 11
Sheriffs Milage

ADDRESSED: To Coll W^m Johnson at Mount Johnson in
the County of Albany

FROM ROBERT SANDERS¹

A. L. S.

[Albany, May 8, 1751]

[SIR]

When you was here last Maj: Van Der Heyden was up at the Carrying place, and on his Return home Came and told me that the Onagonque Indians² was or had Been there at his house, In quest of an Answer w^{ch}: they Did Expect on Some wampen they had sent & as he says was sent to you the past winter, So S^r: if you are in a Capacity to send them a Proper Answer thereon I think would not be amis, for they are a Treacherous Nation. He further added that they were Desireous to Come in and treat with us, I answered him that they might Freely Come to Towne to Trade, But that I knew of no Body that Could Treat with them, for for me to do it In Common Council is what we Cant do & Answer for, But when I went to Canada I had Private Instructions as You Know to acquaint all Indians freely to Come here on w^{ch} I told Maj: Van Der Heyden to tell them that they might freely Come, He Desired me to Communicate this to you as I thought it might perhaps be Prejudicial to the Country if did

¹ Robert Sanders was mayor of Albany from October 15, 1750 to 1754.

² Abenakis.

not therefore Bag you to Excuse my freedom Assure you I am
with my hearty Regards for you & all Yours Hon'd, Sir

Your Hearty well wisher and

Most Obliged Servant

ROBT: SANDERS

P: S. Mr Joh^s. Brat was here yesterday at my House and told me would not Deliver me the Indian Boy Unless I Secured him or paid him the money he had paid for him w^{ch}. I believe to be but Little if I may Credit people w^{ch}. I would not or Could not do, So that I have acquainted his Excellency thereof who I Doubt not But will soon make him Repent his Breach of promise.

FROM ARENT STEVENS

L. S.

Schonectady 8th. May 1751.

SIR

According to your disire I stopt Hendrick the Indian yesterday morning and kept him here, and examined him who was the Owners of that Land which you have a Inclination to Buy, And Beg'd he would tell me the truth as you would not have any disputes after you had Bought it. I told him if the Oneyde's Indians were owners of the said Land, he must tell me so, and he should be paid for his Giving me his Advice about it, he sayes the Oneyde's has no pretentions to the said Land, as they made a Division when the Big Flats were Sold,¹ so he declares that the Canajoharies Indians are the right Owners of the said Land, and there cannot be any dispute about it, he sayes he wishes to have the Bargain made as soon as possible, I told Hendrick to send to Scoharee for Seth, and likewise for Sonewesie that we may meet at your House as soon as possible: that they may make an end of the Affair, before I go to Call the five nations down;

¹ July 27, 1661. See *A History of the Schenectady Patent*, by Jonathan Pearson, p. 9-12.

I think it will be proper to send a string of waumpum by Hendrick to Invite down the Sachims of his Castle to your House, and I shall be ready to wait on you on the first Advice thereof,

I am with Great respect Sir

Your most hum^{ble}. Serv^t.

ARENT STEVENS

ADDRESSED: To Col: William Johnson
at Mount Johnson

FROM RICHARD SHUCKBURGH

A. L. S.

[*New York, May 14, 1751*]

[SIR]

Since my last there are Vessells arriv'd from England, which bring an Acc^t of the Prince of Wales's¹ Death universally lamented his Son the Eldest Prince is now thirteen years old — the Stationed Ship to Relieve Cap^t. Roddam will be the Centaur comanded by Cap^t. Pye or Cosby M^{rs}. Murrays Bro^{thr}. the Struggle being between them: the Assembly is prorouged to y^e 28th. instant, I beleive, as the Gov^r. has not much news from home relating to this Province particularly concerning Indians: I have heard by the by that the Lords of Trade have not made their Report to the Council concerning y^e Colonies as yet — Certificates are all paid — a Comission is made out for Lieut Ogilby from Gibraltar in [Exchang]e wth. L^t. Cleland I suppose [] ound there L^t. [] expected every Day here, has Exchanged [] Another L^t. in the Room of Poor Harve [] wth his family I forgot his Name — M[]d here are like to be Accomodated between the [] our Premier afraid of a great fall tho [] appen he may be let down softly. Th's

¹Frederick Lewis, father of George Third.

[]k nothing has transpir'd from y^e ffort Cap^l. Ruthe[rford's] family are going home in Cap^l. Roddam who will I suppose carry Kennedys Pamphlet I see nothing New in it being hardly any thing but a Repetition of y^r. Letters, if I remember, of the Present State of the Indians wrote to the Gov^r. & lay'd by him before the Council of this Province & sent home. I can only repeat to you that it will be your interest to come down when the Assembly sits all []¹ Roberts & Dr Colhoun² [] likewise is our Chaplain Parson Oram³ [] to speak any thing to y^e Gov^r about my [intended?] Office while you & he are not Determin'd in what fo[rm] our Indian affairs are to be Settled.—If you should incline to be Sole Agent or Commissary or by whatever Title the King chooses to annex to such an Officer I shoud be glad to be Secretary to such Commission & if approv'd of by Gov^r. Clinton wou'd go home when he pleas'd to let me & Sollicite the Appointment for us both agreeable to Mr. Kennedys Scheme but not without Y^r. Advice Directions & joint Remonstrance I can say no more at ~~th~~ sent but Defer till I can vivâ você tell you my mind relating to all matters: I wish You cou'd come down before the Gov^r. goes to Albany & finish y^r money Matters wth. the Assembly I really beleive it practicable y^r. Absence before being the reason as the alledge of y^r. being curtaild in y^r. acc^{ts}.

I have nothing to add but [] health & Success in all y^r. Concerns being as ev[] friend & []

R SHUCKBURGH

¹ One or more lines missing.

² Alexander Colhoun was surgeon of the New York regiment.

³ James Orem was commissioned chaplain of the New York regiment June 25, 1751.

FROM JOHN AYSCOUGH

A. L. S.

Fort George [May 18, 1751]

[SIR]

His Excellency orders me to acquaint you that he has sent Circular Letters to all the Members of the Assembly to meet upon Business the 28th Instant. And as he purposes to recommend the payment of the several Deductions made in the Provincial Accounts, Therefore desires that you will come down or send what Accounts you have (especially that for disbursements to the Indians since Nov^{br} 1748) but would much rather you would come your self, for it is impossible for him to know from what article they Deduct or for what reason, which was you present, you probably would make a clear demonstration to them of the necessity of such charges.

Your Petition, for those Lands round the Lake Canumda,¹ is granted. But his Excellency did not think it would look well for the other Petition for self & Comp: for the Hundred thousand, to have both been brought in at one time, for his Excellency has not had a Council for Lands till Thursday last since the receipt of your Letter of 8th April I am Sr

Your most Obedient Serv^t

J AYSCOUGH

ADDRESSED: On His Majesty's Service
 To The Honourable William Johnson Esq^r
 at Mount Johnson
 To the Care of L^t Miller
 at Albany
 ¶ Cap^t Hogan

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: May 18th. 1751

¹ "About two miles distant from the Onondaga castle," *Calendar of New York Colonial Manuscripts, Land Papers*, p. 261; see also William L. Stone, *The Life and Times of Sir William Johnson*, 1:405-6.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR¹

A. L. S.

New York May the 18th: 1751

SIR

I have received your Favour of the 6th. Instant before the Receipt of which D^r Ayscough brought me a Memorandum for a Petⁿ. in your Name Tho^s. & Jn^o. Butler for a Lycense to purchase the Lake Canunda and 4000 @ of the Lands around it which I prepared and has been since laid before the Council & granted and if I can get the Lycense signed before this goes (the Governor being gone this Morning in a Party of Pleasure) I shall inclose it otherwise send it by the first Opportunity. The Reason of the Lycense being to purchase 6000, is that you must purchase one fourth more than you patent. As to the Boundaries of this Land altho with out any Difficulty the Lycense has been obtained yet it is very probable you will not be able to obtain a Patent for the Lands about the Lake exactly in the Manner you would take them up It being directly repugnant to the Kings Instructions to grant Lands extending thus along the Banks of a *River* (and it's likely this being a Lake will not be esteemed an essential Difference) because the Lands back of them would by that means be less valuable & more inconvenient for Settling.

As to the other Lands you would purchase I prepared a Draft

¹ Goldsbrow Banyar was born in London in 1724, came to this country in 1737, it is said, and in 1746 was made deputy secretary of the province, deputy clerk of the council and deputy clerk of the supreme court. Later he was register of the court of chancery, judge of probate and examiner in the prerogative court. At the outbreak of the Revolution he retired to Rhinebeck. Royalist in feeling, he maintained an attitude of neutrality, and appears to have suffered but slightly at the hands of the victorious party. After the war he removed to Albany, where he was active in public concerns, and from 1802 to 1805 was a warden of St Peter's Episcopal Church. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Abraham Mortier. Mr Banyar died November 4, 1815, *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 8:188-89 and *A History of St Peter's Church in the City of Albany*, by Rev. Joseph Hooper.

of a petⁿ. agreeable to your directions¹ and (as is usual) acquainted the Governor with it But he would not have it presented then because two Pet^s. in your Name on the same Day would not look well. And if you were to follow the Custom in such a Case, your 2^d. pet'n should be in the Names of some Friends in Trust for you and in whom you can confide to reconvey the Lands when patented. It is also necessary (perhaps not absolutely so) to incert the Names of all the parties to be concerned, the Contrary has been practised sometimes but after the purchase made it is without doubt necessary to incert their Names when you Petition for a Patent. I may probably receive your directions on these Points before the next Council Day, if not I shall venture to present it as now drawn unless his Exc^y. would have it otherways. And if in the mean time you can obtain any further or better description of the Lands pray send it. I dont very well understand "All the Lands on both sides or Shores of said Creeks" seeing only one Creek mentioned, unless you mean the Branches of that Creek. You will hardly obtain these Lands extending along the Banks of the Creeks & River as you mention. Perhaps the obtaining Patents for these Lands may be of so much Advantage as that you'd not think the Time in coming down to sollicit them yourself mis-spent, your presence may greatly facilitate the Matter. The Lands you purchase must be surveyed by the Surveyor General or his Deputy in the presence of the Indians and the Boundaries incerted in the deed in their presence. An Interpreter must be Sworn, by a Justice of the Peace to be also present, & the purchase Money or other Consideration must be paid in the presence of the Surveyor or his Deputy & the Justice And Certificates of all this endorsed and signed on the Back of the Deed.

I am, Sr.

your most obed't hble Servant

G^w BANYAR

ADDRESSED: To Collonell William Johnson at Mount Johnson in the Mohawks Country in the County of Albany. P fav^r. of M^r. Farrell.

¹ *Calendar of Land Papers*, p. 261.

FROM BENJAMIN STODDERT

A. L. S.

Oswego May ye. 20th. 1751

DEAR SIR

I flatter myself you'll not take it Amiss my not sending these Packs to you, as I engaged my word to send them to New York, to One of the Gentlemen I had my Goods from last Year who was Pressing for the Payment; and as the Price of Furs, now are too high for Shipping Home hope it will be no Disadvantage to you to wait a Short time Longer, for Believe me if I had not been Obligated to ingage sending my first Packs to New York you should have had the Preference to any Man Living; I however hope to send you Eight or Ten Packs of Beaver in a Fortnight or Three Weeks at furthest which I have Strong Assurance of in Several Letters Rec^d. since here.

I wrote some time agoe for some Goods to be sent me from New York such as Gingham Curtain Calicoes Handkerchiefs &c which I have a demand for, and desired they might be sent up to you for me, and as soon as they are come (which I hope will be by the time you get this) must begg the favour of you to send them up by Clement who has agreed to bring up a Battoe for Paul Combs & me who has wrote down for half a Battoe of Rum and for the Other part of the Freight of the Battoe thats wanting after Pauls Goods and mine (that comes from New York) Please to send me one Baggage of Bread a Baggage of Flower and the Rest in Rum so as to Compleat the Freight and hope by the return of the Battoe that brings them Goods up to send you some Packs, I having now near Two by me besides what I send down

There has been but very little Trade as yet. I however have the pleasure to acquaint you that Albert Van Slyck has Traded since my arrival here about Six Packs, and has behaved himself much better then he has done since he has been here this Time.

I have no News to acquaint you but sincerely wish you health
and Prosperity and am Most Respectfully

Dr. Sir

Your most Obliged Hum^l. Ser^t.

B. STODDERT

P: S:

L: Clement will deliver you 5 Bear Skins & some Blanketts I
send down for Covering, the Blankets will serve to Come up
again with the Battoe between Combs & me

B: S:

ADDRESSED: To The Hon^{ble}. William Johnson Esq^r.
at Mount Johnson

FROM JOHN B. VAN EPS

A. L. S.

Schenectady 24 May 1751

I feayried¹ Mr Henry Phillips according to Act and Send
also the in Closed bills and y^e 2/ ₤^s wh^t: the Negro Boay
brought Me for your honears farrey I hope y^e or Yours will
never pay me a penny for the Same for I Cannot Shee howe
Ever I Can Make Sathisfaction Dr. Sr. I hope your honear will
not teake it a Miss So I Conclude with harty wishes and Remain
Y^r Most Humble

Sarvant

JN^o B V EPS

P S Henry Phillips
did not Send it thill
know

ADDRESSED: To The Honearble Coll: William Johnson
at Mount Johnson

¹ Ferried?

FROM THOMAS BUTLER

A. L. S.

Oswego May 29th. 1751

SIR

Your favour I rec^d. Yesterday together with the Goods Sent me by Johne. but I fear they are come to a bad Markett We have had but one Atowawa Canoe here this year What hinders their Coming I cant lern — but that the new French Fort at Nigra will stop much of this Trade is Certain. As they have all Sorts of Goods & have orders from the Gov^r. of Cannada to Sell Cheap.

I have taken perticular Notice of Nanneys Shapes & I cant find the Several doses you Gave hir has in the least altered hir I understand that She has a mind to See you and try the Experim^t. over again. As to Mr. Groenendycks pretending to be My Rival I fear him the least of any Man. Espesily as he is now with Swelled legs Creeping about like a man of Ninety nine I understand there is some talk of my Fathers being removed to York, but hope you'l be his Frind as formerly. I hertily wish you all that Heven can bestow & am with all Respect Sir

Y^r. Most obed^t. Hum^{bl} Ser^{tt}.THO^s. BUTLER

Johne desires his
Complements to you

ADDRESSED: To The Hon^{ble}. William Johnson Esq^r.
att Mount Johnson

FROM LE CHEVALIER DE ST LEGER

A. L. S.

City Hall N. York June 18th. 1751.

SIR

I am very sorry I did not heard Sooner of your arrival to N. York, I should had the Honour to write to you sooner; I understand by the Boy that gave you my Letter, that you have taken

in Consideration my misfortunes, and what engages me to take the Liberty to send you this Letter, & the News Paper, in order that you might See a true Idea of my affair, if the Persons that it Concerns had not fund it so, they would have it Contradicted; I heard that severall Governors should meet at Albany with his Excellency Clinton, if you would be so good to do me the favour to lay my Case before them, I am persuaded they would have Compassion of my hard situation I can't think that the English Laws permit to put a stranger in Prison without reason, and there to lett him perish of misery, not alowing him so much as bread & water; if the under shriff had not taken compassion of me, I should actualy starved. I hope Sir you'll do me the favour to represent my Case to them Gentlemen, and I shall for ever be obligated to you, since I have the honour to be with due Consideration Sir

Your most humble

and obed^t. Servant

LE CHEVAL^R. DE ST. LEGER

THE SIX NATIONS AND JOHNSON¹

D.

At a Council held at Albany the 2^d day of July 1751.

Present

His Excellency the Hon^{ble}. George Clinton

Cadwallader Colden

James Alexander

The Hon^{ble}. James De Lancey Esq^{rs}.

Edward Holland

The Six Nations haveing desired a private Conference with his Excellency, that they had something to say to him that was agreed to this morning in their Councils.

¹ Council Minutes, 21:430-34.

They were called in, and Hendrick their Speaker for that time spoke to the following purpose.

Brother Corlear.

As this is the place of consultation, we are now come to consult with regard to Coll. Johnson, we well remember that when the War broke Out, you recommended Coll. Johnson to the Six Nations, and told us that whatever private News there was, if Coll. Johnson told us, we might depend on it, as much as if we had it from your Excellency; and it is not owing to us that Coll. Johnson was first recommended to us by your Excellency as a person for our information. We were very much shocked when Coll. Johnson sent a Belt of Wampum through the Six Nations, to Inform us that he declined acting any more with us, and it was the more Terrible, because he was well acquainted with our publick Affairs. We had in War time when he was Like a Tree, that grew for our use, which now seems to be falling down, tho it has many roots; his knowledge of our affairs made us think him one of us (an Indian) and we are greatly afraid, as he has declined, your Excellency will appoint some person, a stranger both to us and our Affairs; and we give your Excellency this Belt of Wampum in order to raise up the falling Tree.

We desire to have an answer to what we have said and that Coll. Johnson may be reinstated, for he has large Ears and heareth a great deal, and what he hears he tells to us; he also has Large Eyes and sees a great way, and conceals nothing from us.

A String of Wampum.

Our fire is kindled at Coll. Johnson's, which fire is now a going out, and here they gave a string of Wampum to have the fire renewed.

We desire his Excellency will be pleased to reinstate Coll. Johnson or else we expect to be ruined.

They then desired his Excellency would be pleased to order their Guns, Hatchetts and Kettles to be mended, which was consented to.

They then desired his Excellency's answer to their speech relating to Coll. Johnson.

At a Council held at Albany the third day of July 1751.

Present:

His Excellency the Hon^{ble}. George Clinton

Cadwallader Colden

James Alexander

The Hon^{ble}. James De Lancey Esq^{rs}.

Edward Holland

After the Indians had made a publick condolence on the death of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and after his Excellency had condoled them upon the death of their Sachims, since the last time he had mett them in this place. He directed them to send in two or three of the principal Sachims of each Nation, to receive his answer to what they said yesterday relating to Coll. Johnson whereupon Eighteen of them came into Council, and his Excellency spoke to them in the following words.

Bretheren

Coll. Johnson's declining to continue in the Management of the Indian Affairs was against my Inclination, and his declining to assist me at this time, is unexpected to me, because he gave me reason to expect him in this place at this Interview, to assist me by his advice; but since he absolutely refuses to continue in the Management of your affairs, I cannot help it. You tell me that the first appointment of Coll. Johnson to manage your affairs, was not owing to you. but you found him afterwards very useful to you. Now since he refuses to continue, I must appoint some others. And you may depend upon it, I shall take all the care in my power to appoint proper persons for this service, who will have your Interest truely at Heart. A Belt of Wampum.

You have the more reason to trust to me in this, since Coll. Johnson has been so carefull of you, tho his appointment was without any recommendation from you, I give this string to

remove all Jealousies on this Occasion. A String of Wamp[um.]

I shall take care to light up a Fire for you, in some other place, to which you may freely resort, and be kept warm, and hear all the news that may any ways concern you; and where you may safely open your heads. A String of Wampum.

To which the Six Nations answered, That the one half of Coll^o. Johnson belonged to his Excellency, and the other to them; and since his Excellency could not prevail on Coll. Johnson to come down, they desired leave to send a Messenger with a string of Wampum to try what they could do; to which his Excellency consented; provided it did not Occasion any unnecessary delay and they said they would send a person who should go sooner than a Horse.

. . .
At a Council held at Albany the fifth day of
July 1751.

Present

His Excellency the Hon^{ble}. George Clinton

Cadwallader Colden

James Alexander

The Honourable

James De Lancey Esq^r.

Edward Holland

The Indian Messenger, whom His Excellency permitted the Indians to send for Coll. Johnson, having yesterday mett him on this side of Schnectady, on his way to this place, where he arrived Last night; he was now called into Council and his Excellency requested him to continue the Management of the Indian Affairs for that the Indians were very uneasy at his declining further to act therein.

To which Coll. Johnson answered to this purpose Vizt. That it was impossible for him to continue any longer in the Management of Indian Affairs, without a very great detriment, if not ruin, to him in his private Fortune, as well as a very great fatigue to his person. For that before the third day of November 1748,

he had (of his private Fortune) advanced in the Management of Indian Affairs, and for the Supply of the Garrison at Oswego, after Others had declined supplying it, because of the War, to the Value of £7177. 3. 2 $\frac{3}{4}$, of which the accounts had been from time to time duely sworn to by him, and delivered into the Assembly but they only made provision for the payment of £5801. 7. 4. thereof, so that there remains £1375. 15. 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ without any provision as yet made by the Assembly for the payment thereof, that he has never heard of any Objection made by the Assembly to his Accounts, nor of any reasons why the Assembly have from time to time delayed the makeing provision for the payment of the said £1375. 15. 10 $\frac{3}{4}$. That of the £5801. 7. 4. which the Assembly have made provision for the payment of, and for which he had warrant on the Treasurer many years agoe, there remains £2404 as yet unpaid, tho often demanded, and tho he has good reason to believe, that the duties on the Trade to Oswego (the fund out of which the said Warrants are to be paid) are fully sufficient to pay all that is ordered to be paid out of them, and tho he is well assured that Warrants to others, of several years later date, upon the same fund, have been paid; nor has there ever been any provision made to compensate him for delay of payment after his advances.

That on and since the third day of November 1748 at his Excellency's request, he has advanced of his own private Fortune, in the Management of the Indian Affairs, to the Value of £595. 12. 8. as by an account sworn to by him (ready to be produced) of which he has received no part, nor does he know of any provision made for the payment thereof.

That it is impossible to continue in the Management of the Indian Affairs, without great advances, besides his own trouble, and as there is so much already in arrear to him, his further Continuance in that management, will increase those Arrears, without a Certainty of a Speedy payment.

That he would be willing to do all the service in his power to this Government, in the matter proposed, were he enabled to do

it, but from what is past he has no reason to depend on any thing from the Assembly for that purpose.

The Council advised his Excellency to desire Coll. Johnson to continue in the Management of the Indian affairs, at least during the Continuance of the present Treaty with them, and that his Excellency would be pleased, on his return to England, to represent to his Majesty the uncommon and great Sufferings Coll. Johnson has had in his Zealous Service of the Crown, the Losses he has sustained in his private Fortune thereby, and that suitable Recompense be given him, not only for the money he has advanced, but Likewise for the great fatigue and dangers he has personally undergone in this service for which he has not made any charge in his Accounts.

Afterwards His Excellency informed the Council, that he had Communicated the advice of the Council to Coll. Johnson and that he had promised to give all the assistance in his power during the present Treaty; but that he declined being sworn of the Council, as sitting as a Councillor, would occasion an Extraordinary expence on him, as the Indians would thereby imagine that he was continued in the Management of the Indian Affairs, and that he was enabled to perform the same on the publick charge.

LETTERS TO AND FROM JOHNSON AND OTHER PAPERS

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:726, in a conference, of July 6-10, between Governor Clinton and the Six Nations, is a request of the Indians for Johnson's reinstatement as agent; p. 729, a letter of the 27th from Johnson to Clinton, giving intelligence of a French hostile movement toward the west; p. 729-30, a letter of July 10th from John Lindesay, at Oswego, to Johnson, with information of a French design; p. 730, a letter of July 19th from Benjamin Stoddert, at Oswego, to Johnson, regarding French purpose to attack western nations; p. 739-41, in Cadwallader Colden's review, dated August 8th, of the state of Indian affairs, is a sketch of Johnson's relation to those affairs prior to his resignation of their control. In *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:623-24, is a letter of July 15th from John Lindesay to Johnson, conveying information of Indian defection and the landing of a French and Indian force at Niagara.

TO GEORGE CLINTON

A. Df. S.

[September 2, 1751]

Yours of the 18th. Ult^o. I had the honour of receiv[ing] but Yesterday together with a letter of Mr. Ferrell's w^h. I assure you Sir gave me no small uneasiness & as your Excellency put it out of my power (by desireing me not to lett him know any thing of it) to have what he said cleared up, or explained, I can say nothing more ab^t. it than this that the last letter I had from Mr. Warren was by Bryant wherein he does not even say a word of his comeing to these parts in any Shape, neither did Mr. Ferrall or any Body Else ever see said letter since I rec^d. it, so that I cannot account for his reason of writeing so, any more than it must be a Ridiculous Air he gave himself. w^h. if I had liberty, should severely reprimand him for. I hope your Excellency will not doubt my veracity when I solemnly declare by all that is Sacred I never rec^d. any Such letter from Mr. Warren. I inclose you s^d. letter again without any Bodys ever knowing any thing of it. also some Indian News Sent me by Cap^t. Lindsay relateing some what to the French Army. of whom I have had later Acc^{ts}. by a Mohawk Indⁿ. Come directly from Ohio, who says the French Commd^t. of the Forces, finding those Ind^{ns}. he expected would Join him by the way, not inclined to it altered his Scheme, and Sent part of the Troops back again, so proceeded with two or three Hundred French & Ind^{ns}., and as I can learn, is now resolved to bring about by Stratagem what he finds he could not by Violence. the Indians being all aprised of their comeing with such a Body, by my Message &ca.

I am highly oblidged to your Excellency for the care you have taken in recommending my Affairs Home, and as You Judge it proper I should Still Sollicit the payment of my Acc^{ts}. here. I shall attend when Your Excellency is pleased to meet the Assembly, w^h. I should be glad to know.

I am with the greatest respect Imaginable Y^r. Excelley^s. Most
Obliged Humble Serv^t

W. J:

My Compliments to M^{rs}. Clinton & please to tell her I have
got 3 fine Wood Ducks for her, & some Wild Turkeys, w^h. I
shall take with me, as I cant trust the Skippers.

To Gov^r. CLINTON

FROM JOHN COLON

A. L. S.

Oswego Sep[t]ember y^e 2 1751

SIR

I Hope you will be so good as to Receive the pament for the
Note within, Baring Equal Date with this Letter and oblige
your most Humbele Serv[a]nt

JOHN COLON

Sir

I was Redy to Come Downe but Herd Sum News of Indiens

ADDRESSED: To Coll: William Johnson
at Mount Johnson
Pr favour M^r Riner Minderse

TO SAMUEL AND WILLIAM BAKER

A. Df.

[Mount Johnson, September 12, 1751.]

I hope 'ere now, you Have rec^d. the 3 Hogsh^d. []
Bever & two Bundles of Bears sent you by Rich^{ds}. I now send
you another Hogshead of Bever &ca by Richards also, together
with 3 Casks of Gentian¹ Root weighing as ₤ Invoice, w^h. I
wish Safe to y^r. hands, and a good Market. Gathering the

¹ Ginseng?

gentian Root has cost me vastly dear, being but scarce in these parts, I have had most of all the five Nations for these 3 Months employed to gett me about four Hogsheads. If thy do not fetch a great price there, it will not answer sending them. Our Neighbours the French buy 'em at a Monstrous Rate. pray let me know if possible, what I can afford to pay for them a pound here by the first opertunity otherwise I cannot venture to buy any more at the rate I have done. I would have you send one or two Casks of them to the Highest Market for a tryal, the rest you may sell In England at the best price you Can, if they are sold under 12^s a pound, I shall be a sufferer. However leave that to your Management — Inclosed is a Memorandum of some goods I shall Want as Early as possible in the Spring wherfore pray do not fail sending them. I shall send you by the next ship some more Bever & gentian. I have rec^d. from Mr. Cromelin of Amsterdam 712 ll of Kettles the Dearest, & worst made up of any ever come to these parts. The Amount is £579..10..— pray let the strowds, Gimps &ca be good. As I Expect to hear from you soon by Dean, shall deferr adding further than that I am, wth. much Esteem

Gentlemen Y^r.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Coppy of a letter to
Mess^{rs}. Baker
7^{br} 12th. 1751
by Jones

GABRIEL SMETHURST'S INVOICE

A. D. S.¹

	N ^o .	31 yds	@	17 ^d		500.	14.	9
1 p ^s . ¾ Freze Light Blue	88	31 yds		17 ^d	2			
2 p ^s . D ^o [black?]	39	83 yds		21	7			
2 p ^s . D ^o Green & Red	127	37½		19	11			
4 p ^s . Worsted Shaggs	91	89		2/2	9			
1 p ^s . D ^o	117	37½		2/	3			
1 p ^s . D ^o	118	30½		2/	3			
1 p ^s . D ^o Scarlett	119	30½		3/6	5			
1 p ^s . hair Shagg Black	92	11		5/6	3			
1 p ^s . D ^o Scarlett	116	15½		6/4	4			
1 p ^s . Red Bays	99	47			2			
1 p ^s . D ^o	100	47½			2			
1 p ^s . D ^o	101	47			2			
1 p ^s . D ^o	102	48			2			
1 p ^s . D ^o	103	48			2			
1 p ^s . D ^o	104	48½			2			
1 p ^s . Blue Bays	105	45			2			
1 p ^s . D ^o	106	46½			2			
1 p ^s . D ^o	107	45½			2			
1 p ^s . D ^o	108	46½			2			
1 p ^s . D ^o	109	47½			2			
1 p ^s . D ^o	110	43½			2			
4 p ^s . D ^o	111	48			8			
White			Each @ 44/					
Total Of Woolens						167	19	5

¹ A fragment.

6 Gross Broad Quality 112 @ 6/ 69 Gross
 8 D^o D^o Fine 113 7/
 6 D^o D^o London 114 8/
 3 Doz Coverlids for package 17/ 69 doz
 7 Bags Buttons for D^o 6/
 3 p^s hessins¹ for N^o 9.10 & 13 Cont. 101 Ells 7^d 69 Ell

To Chests & Cords with porters
 Carriage to Liverpool
 Entring & Shipping Charges
 primage & Bills Lading

Commission 2½ 69 Ct

£

Manchester 20 Septem^r.

Errors Excepted
 69

Gamaliel Smethurst

INDORSED: 1752

Liverpool

¹ For hessian, coarse sacking.

FROM JOHN ACKERMAN

L. S.¹*Oswego Sept. 21th. 1751*HON^D SIR

I find my self under Such curcumstances That if not relived therefrom Shall in the End Greatly Suffer I know no person I can Apply to for redress but To Your Hon^r. knowing its one of Your Great Caractars to help those in Need To Acquaint You in Short I was a Serjt. belonging To Major Clarks Comp^y. by whose leve I came here As Trader, & have allways indevered to behave so as to have the Good will of the offic^r. here, whom allways Allowed me the privilidges of a Trader I cant Say I am otherways used as Yet, but fear it wont continue long so. When Cap^t. Mills & the Comm^d. came here I was told y^t. the Muster Marsters wou'd not Muster me any longer & that I was Struck of the Roll & a Serg^t. put in my stead, I have heard Since Cap^t. Mills Says I am Still to be on the Rolls as a Private man. I never disobeyed My Officer & Since it hath been thought proper to take the Halbert from me without Commiting a fault, Think it hard to make me Still Serve as a Private Centinell. When Cap^t. Lindseay was here had his leve to Cure a Small Bundle of Hay in the orchard & to leve it there till I could Get a Convenient place to put it in but before he left this I beged he would let Cap^t. Mills know the Hay belonged to me. he asured me he had told him & that I might fetch it when I pleased. Accordingly I brot it from thence without acquainting Cap^t. Mills. A few days after he was Vastly displeased at My boldness in so doing & was about Sending for me with a File man To put me in the Black Hole, but was preswaded therefrom by two of the Traders. if I Should be used in Such a Manner, I Should be dispised by the Traders & Meanly thought of by the Indians by whom I hope to Get a Small lively hood. I had thoughts of Going down to Get my discharge but as its now the Season of

¹ Letter in handwriting of Thomas Butler.

Trusting the Indians thats Going hunting & Some Small Trade of Messesagas day Expected fear'd my loss would be too Great to be absent. Wherefore Most Humbly beg the favour youl Get it for me & Cost what it will shall Thankfully Repay You. I have been told by one that My life will be made Very uneasy to me this Winter, which Gives Me & My wife Great uneasiness. I declare I never did the least thing to disoblidge Cap^t. Mills unless the affair of the Hay. I pray you if posible to Get my discharge under My officers hand & convey it me as Soon as You Conveniently Can, & youl forever oblidge

Your Hon^{rs}. Most Dutifull Serv^t.

JOHN ACKERMAN

ADDRESSED: To The Hon^{le}. William Johnson Esq^r.

att Mount Johnson

⌘ Pat: Delany

FROM JOHN AYSCOUGH

A. L.

Flat Bush 8 [Sep^t. 1751]

S^R.

His Excellency having prorogued the Assembly to Tuesday the first of October has ordered circular letters to be sent to the Members, then to meet upon Business. He desires that you would come d[own] if possible, before that time, as he purpos[es] to recommend to them the payment of their Deductions of Provincial Debts, and particularly yours; He likewise desires you would recollect what passed in the Private Conference between you, the three Indians and himself (when you interpreted to him for them; in the Passage at Albany) concerning the Lands granted to M^r Barklay.¹ And as he has determined

¹ Concerning Mr Barclay's claim, see *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:315 and *Calendar of Land Papers*, p. 241, 242, 243, 244.

to stay here till next Year, he would be glad that you would put it into some Form, that he may think on a proper Method to recommend it to the House when they meet; for he has had Information from home, that there can be nothing done in it there till it has been discussed here first¹

FROM JOHN SHIRL

A. L. S.

[September, 1751]

[DE]AREST BILLY

All my Letters before never rec^d the least ans^r hen [ce] I tease for one to the onely man I wish best, and am so delighted att the Several acc^{ts} of Your honour and bravery with every other fine princible thats becomeing you is suffitent to prolong my days Your friends here are all in good health and be assur^d. you are the hapiest in your Brother Jack Especially his wife who proves the fondest sister and the best of wives deserves the greatest Esteem you can bestow on her My dear I Expected before now to be happy here with your many promises of Seeing poor Ireland but finds New York Ladys have a greater inflewence than Could be expected in this Contry of ours, I Cant tell whether your Condition be Changed or not if so Gods blessings attend in all your proceedings Mr Tay with a great many more of us give their kind Compliments and hopes firmer ingadgements subsists, my dear Billy nothing in life could aford me greater satisfaction then the thoughts of Your Company here once more but fears Your Business in diferent Kingdoms destroys that hapiness propos^d, my play fellow though not acquainted is equally in Your Esteem and believe me to be my dearest Companⁿ. Your Ever Loveing friend and most humble ser^t

JOHN SHIRL

¹ Remainder of letter is mutilated.

Your Brother the Capⁿ promiss^s to forward this to whome I am greatly oblidg^d and expects your ans^r directed to Mr John Grace at y^e red Lyon in Smithfield

FROM JOSEPH DWIGHT¹

A. L. S.

<Stockbridge, Oct^r 13th 1751>

S^r

I take It for granted That S^r Peter <Warren> has made you acquainted with his favourable opinion of The School Sett up In this Place for the Interest of the Mohawk Children and Others and of his Charitable Disposition towards It: I have also heard that you have your self manifested a well pleasedness with It and have taken pains with the Indians to persuade them to send their Children and take the advantage of It: as one concerned for their Good and as one among others appointed to take Some particular Care of the School I now thank you S^r for all your past kind offices In this Affair: and supposing It may be agreeable to you I now Inform you that the Gen^l Court of this Province agreeable to S^r Peter's Desire have appropriated 700£ Sterling of his Donation to them (which they before his mind was known on this head had Destined to another Service) towards the Support of this School and with what The Corporation for propagating the Gospel among the Heathen & Mr Holliss & other Benefactors have done. The Court have come into votes and orders for the plenary and ample Support of Two Schools one for the Boys another for the Girls and appointed a Com^{tee} to manage and Conduct the Prudential of both and It is to be hoped That as soon as may be these Schools will be under the best Regulations to answer the worthy & good Ends proposed & I can't but hope and ask for your further assistance In Encouraging the Indians to send their Children and continue

¹General Joseph Dwight, trustee of Indian schools at Stockbridge, Mass.

them steadily here and y^r Thought with regard to any measures That may naturally tend to promote the Affair and be proper for us further to do or attempt will be very acceptable.

If <there are any Number of the Mohawk, more or less who are likely> to be down here before Winter I <should> be glad to be advised of It and of any other matter of News or Consequence to this Government or to these Schools in particular. Your Favours In this Regard I have no Challenge to but from the very small acquaintance I had with you at Albany: my particular Relation thereto as one of the Com^{tee} and the Nature of the Case which I doubt not will take hold of your Benevolent Temper

I am S^r with great Esteem Y^r most humble Servt

JOSEPH DWIGHT

COL^{LO} JOHNSON

FROM JOHN SEGER

A. L. S.

[October] 21, 1751¹

WELLEM JONSON

I Remember min louf to you I am halte en wel I hop Dis fue leins shel find you in the seme I am com in the Onneide Cassel and the Brot me op in thar hous and mad mouch of me and act ad me how as it Cornel ionson I told them he is en helt and I Remembert your loff To them and a letel after I mad mine Spech to tham and I told tham that you sed go and trade wit the bretherren and mabe nect winter I soud ther agin for Blecksmit and to morre the came agen and told me to Begein thes wenter I told them I had no lebberte for to Doe suc a ting and then the Bedg me Reit to you

JOHN SEGER

th 1751 the secont felmont 21¹

ADDRESSED: To M^r. Wellem Jonson

Leven in the Mohock

¹Originally calendared under January, 1752; probably written in the second fall month, October or November, 1751.

FROM LEONARD COZZENS

A. L. S.

*Newport Nov^r 13, 1751*To COL^L: WILLIAM JOHNSON,

Respected Friend this Serves to Acquaint you, That my Friend Ferrol & I gott near Rhode Island in Six days After I left Albany and he sett out for Boston the Next day I have not heard from him since I believe he had a Passage Direct for Hallifax — Since I have been at home I have Endeavoured to gett you two or three hownds & Can have them on Pretty Easy terms here being a Pack that Came lately from London in town I think they are the Right sort for your Service they belong in Part to Capⁿ. Malbones Son Godfrey I believe it would be best for you to write to him beleiving he will Redyly Supply you the Sportt here being Pretty Expensive Our Pacing horses don't do for Hunting If you write to Godfrey and Direct it to me I will Deliver the Letter I have a Small Curiosity I would Gladly Send you but I fear it is to late in the fall

I have at this time Nothing more to add it being a Barren time for News Saveing my Gratfull Acknowledgement to you of the Many favours and Kindnesses I Rec'd from you for which You have my best Wishes my Kind love to the Minister Capⁿ Butler and their families tell M^{rs}. Butler I Shall not forgett her Daughter Nancys Stays I Conclude with my kind love to you and all friends

Your Friend

LEONARD COZZENS

ADDRESSED: To The Honor^{le}: Coll^l. William Johnson
at Mount-Johnson
These

FROM UNKNOWN PERSON

An anonymous letter, of November 23d, to Johnson, from Dublin, dealing with the moral character of Matthew Ferrall, following the preceding in the Johnson Calendar, was destroyed in the fire.

FROM JAME GIMMEL

A. L. S.

Burnetsfield, Dec. 21, 1751

Well Weyse Ende Vorsichtige Heer Collonel

MEYN HEER Naer Dien Mein bekend is vwe grote Sorg Vultigheid, vor ons Lond, So heb Meyn verpflicht gevonden, an Myn Heer Collonel bekend te maaken, Sonder Euyt stell, Daer Sein Enige Franse Wilde,* die wille Setlen bey of anhed oneyder Lack Hed Welcke jck van seekere Wilde heb, Ein jss Meyn Heer Well bekend, alss Aquadjood, ende andere Meer, anderss heb jck niet tesege, Myn Heer Weet Beeter Naer vwe Weisheit, wat in duse Saak te doen jck verbleiff Mein Herr Collonell, Vwen getrouen Ende Mitt allen Respect
Vwen obrechten

Burnets field

Dienar

Decemb^r. 21

JAME GIMMEL

A^o 1751

* Hed binne france Ende nit alleenig wilde alss in Die 6te Reeg staad.

ADDRESSED: An D: Hooge achtbare Ende Well Weise Ende Vorsichtege Heer Collonel Johnson att Mound Johnson

Translation

Very Wise and Prudent Colonel

SIR:

Knowing the great vigilance with which you watch over our country, I have deemed it my duty to inform the Colonel without

delay that there are some French Indians* who wish to settle near or at Oneida Lake, as I was told by a certain Indian. One is well known to your Honor, namely, Aquadjood; and others also. This is all I have to say. Your Honor in his wisdom will know best what to do in the matter.

I remain, Mr Colonel, with all respect,

Your faithful and obedient servant,

Burnetsfield

JAME GIMMEL

December 21

A° 1751

* They are Frenchmen and not only Indian, as is stated in the 6th line.

ADDRESSED: To the Honorable and Very Wise and Prudent
Mr Colonel Johnson at Mound Johnson

MARTIN KELLOGG TO HENDRICK

A. L. S.

[Stockbridge, December 23, 1751]

HENDRICK

Colonel Dwight Colonel pynchion & I are []
that you & abraham your Brother and one of []
Teawantaroogo¹ would Come away soon Enough to be at
B[oston] In five weeks from This Day: you^l have horses from
Stockbridge for your Journey and Some man to accompany you
and I suppose brother Joseph will Go with you to Boston

[]d now brother from what I wrote to you Last fall
you may see the necessity of all your Tribes uniting once more
together I hope you will Consider what must be Don by you
Mohawks & us English to Bring it to passe: and have peace one
with another. I understand there are many Tribes back of you

¹ Teondoroge, the first Mohawk castle, near Fort Hunter, William M. Beauchamp, *Aboriginal Place Names of New York*, p. 119, 126-27.

that would Gladly have made War with the french if they Could have had the Consent of the vi nations. Last war, but they Could not obtain if they might be brought handsomly Into y^e English Intrest it would be of great advantage to the Crown of Great brittain I hope Every man that is able to Contribut towards so Good A work will willingly Lend his hand you^l show this to Colonel Johnson to whome Give my service and Let him Know I have great Expectation of his Doing what Lyes In his power to bring the vi Nations together again In love:

and you Sir will I hope do what you Can to perswade your people to bring their Children Boyes & Girls for learning Mad^m Sergeant is Going to Keep a Girles School Spedily you^l. also Consider what is best to be Done In the Case above mentioned so as to be able to Speak when you Come to Boston Remember me to Abraham and all your Chiefes from your Brother friend & Ser^{nt}.

MARTIN KELLOGG

HENDRICK PIETRIS

FROM WILLIAM CORRY

A. L. S.

Corrystbrook Decemb^r. 31st 1751

SIR

I'm favour'd with yours, and have directed my people to vote on your side. Archybold will be here in ten days, whose vote you shall also have, there is an neighbour of mine who has a vote, I have been with him, a small matter can bring him to y^r Interest — My own affairs have laid me under obligations to y^e people of Albany, which I have considerably discharg'd this summer, and hope next summer to make myself easy in regard to Albany — but at this time it is not possible for me to pay them — and if I give my own vote against them it may subject me to their resentment. I think it therefore best for you to go on, and if you find

that one vote will carry it, let the Sherrif adjourn ye Court, which he can do, upon any pretence, and send an express in y^e night to me, and you may depend upon me, but I must also depend upon you if they give me trouble, for a hundred pounds for a few months — You see the necessity there is to excuse my own voting, unless upon y^e last extremity — In a little time I hope I can help you in an Election, My Minister and others Are to be here in March, I had letter from him within these ten days

This Family present their respects to y^r self and M^r Farran; and believe me to be

y^r Most assur'd and most faithfull humble Serv^t

WILLIAM CORRY

MESSAGE FROM AN ONONDAGA SACHEM

January 7th 1751/2

Deliver'd to me by a Onendaga Sachim to repeat to Coll. Johnson Viz:

BROTHER

On our way Back from the Catabaw Nation we met two English men (the one is named Cresse¹) who said they were sent on that road to meet the Five Nations by the Gov^r of South Carolina and the Gov^r. Call'd the big knif^e; they Shewed us a written Paper marckt with a big Seal which they said is sent to us by order of our Father the King of England: they told us the words of of y^e said paper, was that the Gov^{rs}. of S: Carolina & Virgenie had sent Conrad Weizer some time past, to Acquaint the five Nations that the Catabaws disired to make a peace with us, of which they have not rec^d an answer therefore the English

¹ Colonel Thomas Cresap, of Maryland?

would know if Weizer has deliver'd the said Message to us, as there has been since that time nine of the Catabaws kill'd, and a great many Cattle Belonging to the English destroy'd, But did not know if done by the five Nations or foreign Indians they said they were a going with the written Paper to Oheio and hope to bring those Indians with them to make a peace with the Catabaws, were they would make a fire on the road were we met them, and desires the five Nations will likewise meet them at the said fire within the time of Eight months tho' it would Better could it be done in all hast as it hard to restrain the Catabaw Warriors from revenging their Brothers Blood which is daily Spilt

they told us that it was the Devil which makes all the mischief between us & the Catabaws, & keeps us from makeing a peace with each other

They Asked us if the English should come into our Country and kill our Cattle whether we would take it so patiently & not revenge it

after they had said all that was in the written paper they Showed us a fine lace coat, and said there was many more with a great deel of other goods which should be giving us on Concluding the peace with the Catabaws and the English would acknowledge the five Nations to be the Oldest Nations and formerly the Owners of the land on which the English now lives on

FROM BENJAMIN STODDERT

A. L. S.

Casses Jan^y 21st 1751 [/2]

SIR

I am thus far on my way to Oswego & am Just a Setting out farther, but forgot to Speake to you to Pay Tho^s. Butler for me Thr[ee] Pounds One Shilling which hope [] doe

as it was Cash he was so go[] as to Lend me,—
Excuse hast — may you Succeed not only in the Election but
every thing you Attempt is the Sincere Wish of Dr. Sir

Your most Obliged Hble Svt

B: STODDERT

My Compliments to Mr. Farrell and all enquiring friends.

You'll not forget to Speake to Teady about the Piece of
Aurora and deduct from it £1..8..6 I am to Pay him for J:
Clement

ADDRESSED: To The Hon^{ble}. William Johnson
Mount Johnson

AFFIDAVIT OF PENELOPE LINDESAY

D. S.

January 29 1751/2

City of }
Albany } ss.

Penelope Lindesay came This Day before Me and Made
Oath that She was lawfully Married to John Lindesay late a
Lieutenant in the Independant Company of Fuziliers Posted at
Albany in this Province, of which Thomas Clarke Esqr. is
Captain and ever Since his Death She has Continued A Widow
and is so at this present Time and that She has no Other pro-
vision Pension or Allowance Made her by the Government
either in Great Brittain or Ireland except the Allowance She is
now about to Receive by His Majestys Bounty.

Sworn Before me this 29th: Jan^{ry}: 1751/2

PENELOPE LINDESAY.

Rob^t: Sanders, Mayor.

We the Minister and Church Wardens of Saint Peters Church
in the City of Albany in America do hereby Certify that Penel-
ope Lindesay Widow of John Lindesay late a Lieutenant in
the Independant Company of Fuziliers Posted at Albany in this

Province of which Thomas Clarke Esqr is Captain, is now Living. Wittness Our hands This 29th. January 1752.

JOHN OGILVIE } Minister	ED: COLLINS.	} Church Wardens
	JA STEVENSON. ¹	

FROM ARENT STEVENS

A. L. S.

<Schonectady, 30 Jan 1751/2>

S^R

I wrote you last night <that> as Derick Vanpetie and Frederick <Van Petie> had Voted Douw and Winie² that <there is> Johannis Scermerhorn & Nicholas Van <Petie> & Henderickus Vether has Bought a <Saw mill> out of the said Van Petie's Estate they *are* ready to Vote in your Interest if you <think they> will do any Service; for if their <Votes> will not pass then the said Van Petie, Joseph Brockham, Samuel A. Bradt and <Philip> Van Petie, Ought in Justice to be lain <Aside;> This Estate is in Despute whether it lies <in this> Township or the County, by the defferent Opinions of the Suveyors it was first <Suvey^d> and left in the County by the Second it was left half in this township and half in the County and lastly by Collins wholly in this <township> tho the Van Peties & Delomont has <always Voted> for this Estate in Albany I am <Sir

your> Most humble <Serv^t>

<ARENT STEVENS>

P: S I have prevail'd with Nicholas Velie to Vote but he must be taken care of, and not suffer'd to be talked to by the other side

ADDRESSED: To Coll: Will^m Johnson, This

¹ Signatures.

² Peter Douw and Peter Winne represented Albany county in the Assembly from 1752 to 1759.

FROM HENDRICK FREY

L. S.

Canajoharre Febr'y. 2^d. 1751/2

S^r.

This is to inform you that I Left Albany Last Night And had not an Oppertunity to Speak to you or Any body Else intending to go to the falls this morning in hops to gett Some Votes there I therefore Desire you'll Keep the pole opened Till Monday in the Afternoon & Remain

Your Humble sarv^t.

HENDRICK FREY

Viz^t.

Johanness Iseman

A Son of Rudolph Stell

one Getman

Hansjerie Kas

Johanness miller

Frits Lehr I am inform'd have not Voted

Jon^s. Shults at Stonrobee

ADDRESSED: To Coll. William Johnson

Att Albany

To the Care of Rob^t. Adams

TO RICHARD AYSCOUGH

A. Df.

Mount Johnson March 11th: 175[1/]2

SIR

I take the first opertunity of acknowledging the receipt of yours of the 21st. & two of the 26th. . Ulto by the last inclosing Mr. Alexander & Mr. Smith Opinions w^h. I shall make the best Use I can of. as for that affair of y^e. Commissioners of Osswego Dutys altho a Cursed piece of Villany is very Difficult to find out. Depeyster has owned to me that he has not entered into recogniz-

ances these severall years. the Mayor tells me also that when he sent for Peter Schyler to Qualifie he then sent for Depeyster likewise but he refused it. & notwithstanding has acted all the time. on talking to him some time ago ab^t. the Yearly amo^t. of the Dutys, he acknowledged y^t. they amt^d. to upwards of a £1000 the Year 1749 so then for the other 3 years w^h. he mentions in his Acc^t. delivered to the Assembly the Dutys are but ab^t. £145 as Youl see it in the last Votes page 32. a most damnable imposition on the Publick Yet I cannot Sift it out without he is to produce his books. Collins & he together with the rest of their Cursed Clan, finding I made a handle among the Country People of their defrauding the Country in such a manner, Sends the Inclosed Sheet with that addition of Depeysters to it wth. Collins among the People to Clear up their Character. he says to two Warrants p^d. me amts to £456 but the Scoundril paid me but on am^{ts}. 228 I hope when I go down shall be able to have him brought to Justice. pray dont loose y^t. Extraordinary Sheet as it may be of Service I hope to have y^e pleasure of a face to face Conference wth. his Excellency & you before the Assembly meet when I shall be better able to explain these Matters. I should be glad to know by y^e. first opertunity wheter Mr. Beekman & Fisher are to go down & when. they Imagined that a Petition sent to y^e. House would do and expected upon that to have the Scrutiny here but if that is not the proper method pray let me know & if they are to go down & have the Scrutiny there what is the proper way to prove the Bad Votes. I cant see that they have power to send for those Electors or Examine their titles without an order. pray advise me what is best to be done in it, as it is quite a new thing to me. I am wth. much Esteem Sr. Yr.

Verry Humble Serv^t

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Coppy of a letter to Doctor Ascoughs
March the 11th. 1752

FROM WILLIAM PRINTUP

A. L. S.

Onondaga — March the 15 — 1751/2

[] got no more then [] to sein
and the [] 2 blanckits of blue Strouds and 2 roul
of red gimp [] g]allins of rom wich I hope you will
Send by the bearer [] heare forsed me to Send one
down with these letters and you [] Satisfi this ingin
and Pray Send me one Pound of tee for wee hafe noting to life
one heare but ingin bred and a litel tee and theat very Scant Send
the Excheaing of the black String of wampon by this ingin. the
ingins are vere unese heare Sens theay heare that you heafe not
the Ceare of them nomore: I Do thinck I sheal not be abel to
passefi them redely for theay heafe a myty regard for you but
Still I Shal do all wheat lys in my Pouwer to Passefi them: I
Sheal a:quaint you fully of all theat Pasis heare when I Com
down for these ingins will not geafe me time to rite fully to you
at this Present: Sono more as hoping theat these fue lines meay
find you in good health as wee are at Present from your frind
and humbel Sarvant to Command

W^M. PRINTUP

I heafe Set the neams of the Seachams theat heafe Sained
 heare So theat you can Set them in the deed the red hed his name
 is Casswettune & atassoqua the high brest and Sequaresere: and
 Racsenagate and Seanawade and roisenagecte and Caiequere-
 gowa and arhonent her and rotsagane these are all theat hafe
 Sained

heare is no treading heare for heare is no ingins at home for theay are all out of fiting.

¹ Several lines are missing.

FROM ARENT STEVENS

A. L. S.

Schoneclady 23 March 175[1/]2

SIR

The Bearer here of the Canawagah Indians has a great desire of paying their respects to you and beg'd of me to write to you in their favour, as we told them of your perspectives they Shewe'd great Surprise and Believed it Impossible: therefore, they hope you will convince them that I told them the truth. I am with the Utmost respect. Sir

Your most hum^{ble}: Obedient Serv^t

ARENT STEVENS

ADDRESSED: To The Hon^{ble}: William Johnson Esq^r: at Mount Johnson

UNKNOWN PERSON TO WILLIAM HELLING

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar by a fragment (the right hand half of a sheet) of an undated letter to Lieutenant William Helling at Albany. The writer's name is missing.

FROM BENJAMIN STODDERT

A. L. S.

Oswego March ye. 24th '5[1/]2

DEAR SIR

I am favour'd with yours of the 28th Febr'y. by the Indian Post with the Sugar &c and as I did my self the Honour of writing you by W^m. Goff (w^{ch}. hope you have received) nothing occurring since material but you have from Capt: Mills, only that I have been with some Indians within a few Miles of Cataraque and saw some remains of the most horrid scene ever transacted by Men (ie) the Drum^{rs}. mangled Carcase and Bones of Others, with the Skule of Mark Sampson which they had made a Drinking Bowl of he being the first they Killed; I found at different

Places of there Encamping Mills's Sword (the Blade Broke)
Pistols, Hanger Three Shirts four Firelocks with several other
things of small Value

We are Just informed by an Indian that as some Indians were
a coming from there Hunt beyond Cataraque they came across a
Neck of Land and perceived the Footsteps of a Man where he
had gone down upon the Ice which was very bad as they Sup-
posed to go round that Neck; they Counter Marched his tracts
till they came to where he had encamped and their found their
had been Two and one of them Murder'd, as they found the
Hands, Head, and Other Bones with the Flesh Cut of also a
Piece of the Flesh roasted, they Still Counter Marching the
Tracts saw several Places where Two had encamped till they
came to where there had been Three and One Kill'd and used
as the formers; We hear they have found several things, such as
Shirts, Firelocks Stockings and a laced Waistcoat; but we hope
to hear further of this soon as the Indians are expected here.
They say if he escaped drowning going round that Point he
would soon come to an Indian House.

I expect to see you by the 20th. of next Month and am in the
Interem with my best Wishes to Mr. Farrel Capt. Butler and
Family and all friends Most Respectfully Dear Sir

Your most Obliged hble Serv^t

B: STODDERT

JAMES ALEXANDER, JACOB VANTHUYSEN AND JAMES J. ROSS
TO WILLIAM JOHNSON, JOHN H. LYDIUS AND JOHN J.
ROSEBOOM

L. S.

N. York: April 4th. 1752

GENT,

The Van Bent Housens part owners of Schuylers patent &
some of the owners of the Second Nine partners tract,¹ have a

¹ See *History of Dutchess County*, edited by Frank Hasbrouck, p.
38-39, 41-42.

Contraverse on there bounds one on the other, which by bonds of Arbitration they have Submitted to the award of You three or any two of You, provided the award be made by the thirteenth of may next

The parties have now agreed that the Arbitrators meet on the twentieth day of this Month at Mr. Hoffmans to proceed to hearing the matter & to View the things in Dispute if Necessary We Earnestly beg your acceptance of the trouble of the said affair, and to meet at the above time proposed, the parties have agreed to leave it to You what you shall think Reasonable for Your trouble We are

Y^r. most hble Servants

JAS ALEXANDER

JACOB VANTHUYSEN

JAMES J ROSS

To COLL^o. WILL^m. JOHNSON

COLL^o. JOHN HENRY LIDIUS

& DOCTOR JOHN JACOB ROASABONE

P S Sir

I Depend intirly upon your coming to the place and I hop to meet you there.¹

ADDRESSED: To The Hon^{ble}. Will^m. Johnson Esq^r.

at Mount Johnson in the County of
Albany

GEORGE CLINTON'S LICENSE

A license, issued May 8, 1752, by Governor Clinton to Teady Magin for the purchase of land, following this letter in the Johnson Calendar, was destroyed in the Capitol fire.

¹ This postscript appears to be in the handwriting of Ross.

FROM WILLIAM PETERS

A. L. S.

Schenectady June first 1752

S^r.

I send your Cagg with the best Rum I have also a Loff of
Sugar p^r Cap^t Frank I wish you halth and Prosperity
And Remain yours to Command

WILLIAM PETERS

ADDRESSED: Coll^o. Will^m. Johnson
at Mount Johnson

FROM JOHN OGILVIE

A. L. S.

Albany June 3^d 1752

SIR

I think it my Duty to inform you of the Arrival of the Catawba
Indians, who are come to confirm what was stipulated at the
Treaty with the Indians last year.¹

At the Request of the Hon^{bl}. Mr Bull² I have received them
into my House & shall proceed with them to the Mohawks with
all Speed as they are here upon Charge.

I shall rely upon your Goodness for Direction & lay all the
Papers before you when I come up. Their Company consists of
4 Catawba & one Caiuga Prisoner: I am informed by Kelliaan
that the Mohawks entertain the most benevolent sentiments
towards them, & wish the upper Nations may be in the like
Disposition.

I beg Pardon for troubling you with this & hope the Occasion
will be Apology for my Freedom.

I am Sir with the most dutiful Regard & friendly Sentiments

Your most obedient humbl^l Serv^t

JOHN OGILVIE

¹ At Albany, July 10, 1751.

² William Bull, jr, of the South Carolina council.

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

*A. L. S. Fragment**Greenwich the 30th June 175[2?]*

SIR

I have just received yours of 12th Inst by Vane[ps] []
 all the things excepting the Martens & black squarrels []
 got away in there journey to Albany Mrs Clinton is [as] much
 obliged to you for your Intention You may depend [on] my
 Friendship in every one thing I can to serve you, I [will] not
 only use all my endeavours to get y^e Money, but [] every
 step in my power to procure you the first [] ant] Company
 here and will begin as soon as my frien[ds] [] to
 town to Parliment to try what I can to get a Promise [and]
 you may depend on hearing from me what []
 taken & how I am likely to succeed and []¹
 all friends desire to be very kindly remembered to you, []
 very heartily wish you well.

My dear Sir

Your faithful friend
 and servant
 G CLINTON

FROM WARREN JOHNSON

*A. L. S.**London Aug^t. 4th. 1752*MY D^R BRO

It's with the utmost Sorrow I give you the most Dismal Acc^t.
 of the Death of our most Dear Dear Uncle who died in Dublin
 last wednesday night 29th. July of a most Violent Fever which
 Carried him of in four Days. I was up day & night with him &
 w^d to God I c^d have died in his stead Oh my D^r Bro. such
 Grief as our poor Family are in is unexpressible for we have lost

¹ A number of lines missing.

our all & all, And you I am sure will be as much Shocked as mortal Living, but Let be beg of you to Muster up all your Resolution to bear this most Dismal Acc^t I arriv'd here in two days from Dublin with the Melancholy news to Lady Warren, whom from my very heart I pity & hope God will preserve her Life for her poor Family's sake. he made his will two days before he died & how he has Settled his affairs no one as yet knows, nor 'till I return with her Directions to have it Opened. I Set out in two hours & expect to be in Dublin the 7th he's to be intered at Nock Mark, in a Private manner his Executors are, Lady Warren, Capt. Tyrrell, & the Chief Justice Delancey, & be Assur'd of a faithful Acc^t. of every thing as soon as his will is open'd.

I hope in God my Dr Brother will endeavour to bear this Shock with patience our Loss is very very Great & what to do now with myself I know not. I shall let you hear from me by the first opportunity After my Arrival in Ireland. I shall write this Miserable Acc^t to my Cozⁿ Capt. Tyrrell, who will be I am sure greatly Shock'd. I have not time to add more my Love to Bro Ferrall & believe me my Dr Brother ever

Y^{rs} Most affectionately & faithfully

WARREN JOHNSON

This goes inclos'd to M^r Watts

ADDRESSED: To William Johnson Esq^r.

To the Care of M^r. John

Watts Merch^t. at New York

America

TO JOHN GEORGE LIBENROOD

A. Df. S.

[*Mount Johnson, August 4, 1752*]

[SIR]

I received Your favour of the 5th. of May [last?] and find therby that You wrote me last Year which letter must have been intercepted by y^e way however Your present desire is Sufficient

to engage a part of my business there, which altho but small expect to have it carefully & punctually attended, as our business here depends much on punctuality, and early Intelligence, as well as other parts of the World. I have for a Beginning Sent You a Hogshead genseng & 3 Bundles of Bears which I wish Safe to Your hands, & a good Market and am Cureing a large quantity of Genseng wh. as it is fitt to Shipp Shall also consign to You. we are oblidge to give a monstrous price for it here So hope you will make the most of it. and Send me in return the Articles mentioned in the Inclosed Memorandum as Soon as possible. Mr. Hennerry Hansen of New York Merchant Acts for me there, to whom please to Consign Said goods, and inclose my letters to him. As I intend writing You Shortly again, Shall add no more than that I am, altho Unacquainted Sr.

Yr. Most Humble Serv^t.

W^m. JOHNSON

To Mr. JOHN GEORGE LIBENROOD
Merch^t. In London

P S: as there are Sevrall here who are purchaseing Genseng would have You dispose of Mine as Soon as You Can If you Can get a good price for it.

please to Send me the newspapers regularly.

[¹] as the Vessel did not sail [] opportunity of getting two Hogsheads more of Genseng ready, wh I also Send by this Conveyance. and expect as there is not any quantity shipped from these parts yet, that Mine will fetch the highest price. being verry clean, & well dried. I would have You Send me for the overplus (after paying for those Articles in the Memorandum) good blew Strowds, Some black flowered, Serges, Calicoes, Calimancoes, Russals. a[nd] Poplins. Your punctual, & Speedy Compliance will be the greatest inducement to continue, & enlarge our dealings. I am Sr.

Yr. Verry Humble Serv^t.

W^m. JOHNSON

¹One or two lines are missing.

P S. I had an Acc^t. lately of Some of my Gensang being sold for 32^s ④ 11 & I hear others got 40^s. ④ 11 — pray let me know whether the flower, or Blossom of the Sassafrass Tree would sell well in London & at what price or any other root, plant &ca which we have here. & let it be a Secret for the first Year to any Body Else —

I should also be glad to know whether the Seed of y^e. Ginseng be of any Value & its Use —

Note, as Soon as You receive the Ginseng have the Casks all opened & the roots thrown out to air if you find them in any danger. which I can Scarce think they will, being verry dry when packed.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: N^o. 1

FROM RICHARD MILLER

A. L. S.

Albany 15th. August 1752

HONOURAB^{LE}. S^R.

I this Day Received your feavor Dated the 12th Instant I have this Day Shipped the hogheds on board Capt Bentheysen and gave him a Stricht Charge to keep them drye he will Sail on monday Next and as he Says will be time enouf for the Ship there was 50 Lemmons brought here last week by M^r Hansens Negro wench She told me they ware Sent from you to me but Since I understand they ware to be Sent to you so that the Negro wench made a mistake there is 23 Left which I send you by M^r Van Eps and shall send what I have used as soon as posiabl^e I send you by M^r Van Eps 13 pair of hose which Cost 4/6 ④ pair the merchants sell the best of five Nation Leather to the New England men and let them pick it for four shillings Your new act of assembly is here but I Cant tell how to get it up Safe to you I am very glad to hear that you have got the better of your

Indisposition my wife and family Joynes me in their best
Respects to you and all frinds I am S^r

Your Most humbl^l. Servant

RICH^d. MILLER

To COLL^o. WILLIAM JOHNSON

ADDRESSED: To The Honourbl^e. Coll^o. Johnson Esq^r
att Mount Johnson

FROM THOMAS BENSON

A. L. S.

[*New York, August 18, 1752*]

[SIR]

Upon Mr. Oglevys return from Albany, he told me you
[] so obliging to mention your design of sending the
In[dian] Dress I troubled you to procure for me, as soon as You
got it from the Indians, I Expect to sail to Day with Mr. Teal
and his wife for London in the Joseph, and sh^d. have been glad
to have carried them with me, but I am sensible of their Indolence
being the only Reason I have it not in time, I believe it was my
desire it sh^d. be sent to Mr. John Levingston, but Mr. Beverly
Robinson having since undertaken to act for me here, I now beg to
have the things sent to him, who will also Repay you, what I left
with you may fall Short I am really ashamed to tresspass so much
upon Your Civility, as I have done in this affair, the difficulty of
attaining it otherwise, will I hope Excuse me. The Company
with whom I was so agreeably entertained at Your house, often
talk of it, Drink Your health, and join with me in present thanks
and acknowledgments and we make boast of the Pidgeon Shoot-
ing Match all the Day long, Mr. Teal has since bought an
Andrew Ferrara as he Says to kill Shot Pidgeons with, If I
was acquainted with any News I sh^d. communicate it; but I am
not Except of the Man of Wars being sailed on a Cruize, and
Parker¹ the printer having been heartily drubbed by Mr. Thom-

¹ James Parker, publisher of the *New York Gazette or Weekly Post-boy*, established in 1743.

son, for publishing the advertizement of Shelim O Blunder, And the Town is very Sickly of Complicated Distempers. Our Company bound for London take leave of You in wishes for Your health and happiness, It wo^d. give me Singular Satisfaction if I co^d. do you any little Service there, as a Conviction how much You have Engaged me to be

Yor. most obliged & Obed^t. Serv^t.

THO^s. BENSON

TO MR SHUCKBURGH

A. Df. S.¹

<Mount Johnson, August the 20th 1752>

<S^R>

Haveing the pleasure of an Intimate acquaintance with your Brother Doctor Shuckburgh of New York whom I have a Singular regard for, induced me to apply to You for what I may want in your way altho but a trifle. Haveing lately had a pritty large Collection of Books from London, shall at present only desire you will please to send me, what pamphlets are new, and worth reading, also the Gentleman's Magazines from Nov^{br} 1750 to the last, & the Monthly Review from the Same time. also the News Papers regularly, & stitched up, You have only to deliver them to M^r John George Libenrood, Merch^t there, who will forward them to me, and will pay your Acc^t Yearly.

Haveing nothing further to add att present (but beg you will Send me those things regularly & punctually) I conclude S^r

Y^r Very Humble Serv^t

W. J.

Please to let me know how & where to direct
To M^R SHUCKBURGH Stationer in London

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: N^o. 1

Coppy of a letter to
M^r. Shuckburgh Stationer
August the 24th. 1752

¹ Inclosed in letter to Libenrood August 22, 1752, q. v.

TO JOHN GEORGE LIBENROOD

A. Df. S.

<Mount Johnson, August the 22th 1752

SIR>

Since my last to you of the 4th. & 10th. Ins^t (at which times Sent you three Hogsheads & a Cask of Ginseng, with three Bundles of Bear Skins by the Joseph, Captⁿ. Wilson, Which I hope you may have received Safe & Sold well, Er'e any quantity arrives.) I have Cured another parcel of Ginseng since quantity as ¶ Invoice inclosed, and Send them to you by the Nebuchadnezar. I hope you may dispose of them all at a good price before there comes Many to market. There are Severall buying them up here, but as they are quite strangers to the management of them, know not how to Cure them Soon. So that I have got the Start of 'em, which I hope you will improve to my advantage & your own. pray let me hear from you by all opertunitys and give me what Intelligence You can relateing to the Markets, at least as much as concerns us here. for you are Sensible that early intelligence is the life of all Business, and much more so in the Mercantile way the amount of what I now Send you, I would have lye in your hands, untill I have occasion to draw for it w^h. may be soon, in the meantime let me have an acc^t. Sales thereof by the first opertunity, and must once more desire you will Send me the goods wrote for by the first Vessel Sails for New York. and let them be always well packed, as there is a great Land Carriage to my House from Albany. I am S^r

Y^r Most Humble Serv^t.W^m. JOHNSONM^r JOHN GEORGE LIBENROOD

P. S. I forgot a few Articles in my last Memorandum, w^h please to Send me with the rest. I have inserted them on y^e back of the Inclosed Invoice.

Pray let me know if there be a possibility of Sending me a parcel of french Blankets, Kersey whale & lettered, such as they

Send to Canada for the use of the Indians, also purple & white ratteen for Stocking Stuff; all wh. they have better than ours — & also French Guns.

<Please to forward the inclosed letter ¹ to Mr Shuckburgh> and when he brings you his Bill at <a years End, pray pay him,> it will be but a trifle, as I shant <have many Books> from him, he is also to Send me the papers <regularly, so> that you need not be at the trouble of it.

Y^{rs} as before

W. J.

N. B. I would have you to buy me a Ticket in the Lottery, as I am generally pritty lucky.

I made a Blunder in the first Memorandum by desireing you to send me thirty P^s. of fringe to patterns I mean lace the Same of the Patterns.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: N^o. 3

Coppy of a letter to

Mr. John George Libenrood

Dated August 22^d. 1752

TO GEORGE CLINTON

A. Df. S.

[*Mount Johnson, September 16, 1752*]

[May it please Your Excellency]

I hope Your Excellency will be kind enough to excuse my long Silence, when I tell You that the trouble I have had with the Five Nations, a Multiplicity of Business. and being much abroad purchaseing ginseng &ca. Was the only Occasion of it. & I now take an oportunity of Assureing Y^r. Excellency that nothing could Equal the pleasure Your Stay gives me, provided it were agreeable to You, & M^{rs}. Clinton. and as the greatest & only means of makeing it so (as I take it) must be from Home,

¹ Letter to Shuckburgh August 20, 1752, q. v.

I sincerely wish Your Excellency every thing Satisfactory from thence. As I look upon it to be of little or no service, my mentioning any thing relateing to the Indians Affairs; or Wants, before the House Meet, have deferred troubleing Y^r. Excellency with an Account of it any further than to let You know that the Indians of the two Castles of the Mohawks begged I would acquaint Your Excellency that a Considerable Number of the Coghnaawagees wth. Some French are gone to War against the Catabaws. at the Same time they earnestly pray Your Excellency would Imediately Send an Express to the governour of Carolina, that He may, let the Catabaws know it, or take any other Steps He thinks proper. they are the More uneasy, as Several of their Men are gone with the Catabaws & knowing not what may be their Fate, if the French Indians Should Succeed. They have also an Acc^{tt}. that a Cajuga Indian who was to War against the Creeks is Confined in the government of Virginia, which they want to know the reason of, and Expect he will be discharged imediately. they daily [¹]
 their Arms &ca before they go a Hunting []
 be of little Service to them. Thus farr I thought []
 Your Excellency with their Affairs at present []
 require Imediate Consideration. Your Excell[ency's] tender professions of friendship, in your last letter made so deep an impression, as cannot be effaced. [] Y^r. Excellency may be convinced of my haveing a most [] Sense of all your kindnesses and I assure You that my Constant Study Shall be to retaliate them in some [] by my Endeavours to Serve You. I have lately [] a purchase of a Tract of Land (by Virtue of that Lycence [] granted,) In Company with Arent Stevens & others. in [] if your Excellency would Choose to be Concerned, I should [] of haveing so good a Partner. as it lyes Contiguous [] think it will Soon be Settled. and of Consequence & [] & the

¹ One or two lines are missing.

Sooner we had It Surveyed the Better, as this is []
 best time for it. besides I understand Mr. Colden []
 up in those parts verry Soon, wh. would Save us a g[]
 of Money. I am with the greatest Respect Imaginable Sr.

Y^r. Excellency's Most Obedient

Most Devoted Humble Serv^t.

W. J —

My Compliments to Mr^s. Clinton (with a thousand thanks for the Monkey & Parrot wh. are both verry pritty of their kind.) also to Miss [Clinton?] whom I hope are both well

TO RICHARD AYSCOUGH

A. Df. S.

[*Mount Johnson, September 16, 1752*]

[SIR]

I rec^d. yours with the Lycence of purchase which I see was Mislead Some time, however Am much oblidge to You for y^r. good offices and dispatch. I have Since made the Purchase, and intend to take His Excellency as a Partner if he inclines to it. I have wrote him so by this Conveyance. I cant Imagine how his Excellency could hear of Lawyers Uneasiness at his being excluded, for I never knew it untill lately and when he told me of it I could not credit it. because I got a Lycence of purchase for Jacob Starnbergh¹ when last at York, upon which he made the Purchase regularly from the Indians. and now when he thought to get a Warr^t to Survey. heard that Depeyster, Dow his Son in Law and others had got one for the Same. altho his Lycence is Prior to the Other. The Land is not I assure you worth Six pence being all rocks & Stones, but As it lyes by these Poor Peoples Doors & Surrounds them, Depeyster & Dow want

¹ May 7, 1752 the petition of Jacob Starnbergh for license to purchase a tract of land at Schoharie was presented to the council, and on the 8th was granted, *Calendar of Land Papers*, p. 264 and *Calendar of Council Minutes*, p. 384.

to distress them because they would not in y^e. late Election Vote and give their Interest to his Friends Dow & Winne. Mr. Holland I think is concerned with them but if he examines the Date of the Lycence's and finds the other prior to his, and knows the reason of their makeing such a purchase I flatter myself he would give it up. or at least Join Starmbergh & Lawyer who told me they would gladly take him in rather than be imposed on by Depeyster. Lawyer & his associates have another Tract of Land depending Sometime, they made the purchase regularly and paid the Indians for it, by the Indians Confession to me, Yet one Becker lays Claim to it by Virtue of a Lycence he also got for the Same but never paid the Indians, neither are they Willing that he should have it from Lawyer, as he goes to York now ab^t. it. You can hear the particulars from himself and if you Can Serve him I should take it as a great favour. He [

¹] the Monkey []

to Send me, for which I am extremely obliged []

pray give her my kind Compliments & tell her []

are exceeding pritty. As to the C Justices Seeming []

of My Money being unpaid, is a Cause of Laughter rather than Surprise, because I know the Man, the Assem[bly] being prorogued to October will retard Business very much. Some things in particular w^h. Cann[] then be done, as providing Smith &ca.

I am wth. Sin[

] D^r. Doctor

Y^r. Freind & Welwisher

W. J —

P S. Pray Send me that letter for S^r. Peter by the first opportunity as it is useless now to You.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: 7^{br}. the 16th 1752

Coppy of a letter to his
Excellency Gov^r. Clinton
another to Doctor Ascough²

¹One or two lines are missing.

²See letter to Clinton this date.

MEMORANDA¹

Memorandum to have Ha[nce] Becker Sen^r. & Jun^r. & Hance Lawyer Sen^r. sworn to give an Acc^t. of what they heard Edward Collins say Concerning some thousands of Pounds the Gov^r. would have the Assembly pay him, w^h. S^d. Collins said was the reason he dissolved 'em, that they would not allow it him &^{ca}.

Martinus Vanalstine to declare what he heard Collins say of the Gov^r. & me in John Depeyster's House. Viz^t. that he said the Gov^r. & I were two damned Rouges.

to Enquire at Schohare who heard John Dow say that the Gov^r. & I cheated the Ind^{ns}. of their pay

[to speak to Widdow Scott if she will Sell her Land for £ 400

flower Cash Nails to buy

Milk Biscake 1 C^t weight

to get Mr. Petrys Receipts out of the office, and get y^e. Gov^r.

to Mention it to y^e. House

A globe for the Electrical Machine²]

FROM JAMES WILLSON

A. L. S.

Albany 26th Sep^r. 1752³

HONOURABLE S^r

I now Send you by Thomas Allman 1 Negro wench 3 half hundred w^{ts} and 2 qr^{ts}. with a Small bundle and a Cask of Gun powder which Van Bentheysen bought it Cost him five pounds at York all frinds here are well I am S^r.

Your most Humb^l. Serv^t

JAMES WILLSON

To COLL^o. JOHNSON

¹ In Johnson's handwriting; written in 1752 probably.

² Matter erased in the original.

³ In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:764, in George Clinton's letter of October 4th to the lords of trade, is mention of Johnson's grievance at the hands of the assembly.

FROM RICHARD SHUCKBURGH

A. L. S.

*New York Octo^r. y^e 14 [1752]*S^r.

I write this as y^e Sloop is just going to acquaint you that the Philedelph. Post is just come in & brings an Acc^t of the Death of S^r. P^r. Warren it is reported that M^r. Franks has an Acc^t. of it whether true I know not. if any other Circumstances relating thereto Shall acquaint you. It is said the Assembly is to sit shortly to do Bussiness when I hope I may have the pleasure of seeing you. I coud wish you woud send me by a punctuall hand a Pound or two Ginzeng I'm about to introduce it into practice both as a Pectoral & Stomachick. I am as ever

Y^r Most obligd Serv^t.R^d SHUCKBURGH

FROM JOHN WATTS

A. L. S.

*Greenwyck 14 Oct. [1752]*S^r.

With the greatest concern I tell you that by a Vessel from Irland to Philadelphia we are informed that S^r. Peter Warren died at Dublin about the last of July. the Sloop is under Sail I can say no more

Y^{rs}.JN^o. WATTS

ADDRESSED: To Coll^o. William Johnson
to the care of Rich. Miller Esq^r.
Albany

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

L. S.

<Greenwich, Nov^{br} 5th 1752>

S^a

I find the Assembly are determined <to go upon> Commissioners for Indian Affairs again <and as I can not,> without Inconveniences, prevent it, I send <for your> perusal, a List of Persons proposed for my Approbation <for> that Commission. I can not help observing, that <they are> pick'd out of almost all your inveterate Opposers, <Therefore,> should be glad of your Opinion, for I can but <think it> Justice, that I should have the Nomination of one<half at> least, of them. I shall be at the Fort Tuesday next, <where I> shall be glad if you would dine with me, and in the interim think what I can do in it. I am S^r

Your very humble Servant.

G. CLINTON

List for Commissioners

Myndert Schuyler ¹	Jacob H: Ten Eyck
Phillip Schuyler	Johannes Cuyler,
Johannis Janse Lansingh	Sybrant G. Van Schaick
Hendrick Bleecker	Johannis Glen
David Schuyler	Gerardus Groesbeck
Hans Hansen	Johannis Van Rensslaer.

ADDRESSED: To Coll^o. Johnson
att Cap^t. Ros's
New York

¹ Former commissioner.

TO WILLIAM BAKER

A. Df. S.[*Mount Johnson, December 24, 1752*]

SIR

I am favoured with Yours by Cap[] difficulty got home the goods Sent me [] being so [] Season (Occasioned by a tedious passage) that the River froze ere [] Could reach Albany, However they are all Safe. I am glad to find Strowds are something fallen, and I reckon all Wollens will now [] Woll we hear is very low. Mr. Warren some time ago desired [] would Send him Samples of french Blankets, & Such Ratteens as y^e. Indians [] ost for Stockings, & Coats, with the prices that could be afforded for [] here. which I accordingly sent him last Summer, and presume Lady [War]ren has received them, If so I should be glad you would please to send [] er for them, and if you find such can be made there exactly to pattern []erry way, & at the following prices, then I would have you Send me four [hu]ndred Blankets, that is a Hundred of Each Size, & 20 peices of the Stocking Stuff Viz^t. 10 P^s. of Each Sort. The largest Blankets at 6^s. ₤, Next Size at 4/6 ₤, Next to that 3/9, or 4^s the most, & 2/6, or 2/9 for the smallest. Two Shillings a yard for the Ratteens, or two & three pence [a]t most. If it cannot be made for that price, then please to Send me [in] lieu thereof four P^s. of the darkest purple Ratteen Cloath Breadth as I usually have had, but let it be of the deepest or darkest Colour, otherwise It soon fades. please to observe the greatest fault of the Blankets formerly Sent me, was that they were woven too Cloose, & the Wool too Short & Coarse. besides the letters, and other marks, Selvage &ca were not exactly the Same of the Pattern, nor so neat, all which the Ind^{ns}. are verry curious In. Please to Send me also 12 Dozen of blew linnen

Handkercheifs wth. small white flowers, or Spotts in them, and
12 Doz: of India D^o. Sorted. I am

Y^{rs}. &ca

W^m. JOHNSON

P S. pray be so good as to Write me w^t. You think concerning y^e. ginseng for I shall be entirely directed by what You advise me concerning y^t. Commodity the approaching Season

As I shall have occasion early in the Spring for a Surveyors Compass & Case of Instruments, beg the favour of You to Send me a good one & let it be tryed there, for Several Sent from thence are not true, let there be a Couple of Spare needles with it, and a Neat Strong Case of Wood to Carry the Compass in, when I go abroad with it

Copia Vera Verbatim

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Copy of a Letter to
Mr. W^m. Baker dated
Decbr. the 24th. 1752 —

LETTERS TO BANYAR AND OTHER PAPERS

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar by the prologue of a satirical comedy and an anonymous dedication to the governor, lieutenant governor and council of Connecticut; two letters from Johnson to Banyar, of July 20 and August 12, 1753; and one from Banyar to Johnson, of September 7, 1753. The letters were destroyed in the fire. They were about land purchases.

LETTERS TO CLINTON AND FROM STODDERT

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:778-80, are printed a letter of April 20, 1753, from Johnson to George Clinton, conveying intelligence of the discovery of a strong French and Indian force near Swegaachey; and a letter of May 15th from Benjamin Stoddert, at Oswego, apprising Johnson of a movement in force on the part of the French to confirm control of the Ohio river country. A copy of the letter of April 20th, but dated April 30th and sent to Governor Dinwiddie of Virginia, is in the Library of Congress. In *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:624-25, is an extract from a letter of March 26, 1753 from Johnson to George Clinton regarding Governor Dinwiddie's informal and unsuccessful attempt to hold a treaty with the Six Nations.

SPEECH OF JAMES GLEN, GOVERNOR OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO
THE HAGLER KING OF THE CATAWBAS*Contemporary Copy*[June, 1753¹]

South Carolina

Extract of the Governors Speech to the Hagler King
of the Catawbaws.

When I first made you King I knew that you well deserv'd it, and your behaviour since shews that I have not been mistaken, I told you at that time I had written to my Brother Mr. Clinton the Governor of New York to unite his good offices with mine that a firm Peace might be made between the Six Nations and you² and that he had acquainted me that the Six Nations agreed to it provided it were ratified at Albany within a year, and in the mean while that all Hostilities should cease on both sides, I accordingly persuaded you and Six of your People to go to Albany but as I knew you would run great risques and be liable to be destroy'd in the Woods, which were then swarming with Enemies I sent you by Sea and that you might not only go safe, but in the most honourable way, I sent Mr Bull one of my beloved Men along with you, and by him I sent Letters to the Six Nations, accompanied with large Presents; You there made a Peace which on your Parts you have punctually observ'd, but I have been sorry to see by your letters that the Six Nations seem to have forgotten their Engagements and have killed numbers of your People,³ I was in hopes at first that it might have been only the Caughnawageroonas or other French Indians, but I have had too good reason since to know that it has been the Six Nations also, and indeed the Intelligence sent by Aarant Stephens

¹ Date uncertain.

² Governor Glen wrote to Governor Clinton on this subject July 7, 1750; and peace was made at Albany July 10, 1751. See *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:588, 721-26.

³ See *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:811-12, 814.

the Interpreter to Mr. Bull, that the Six Nations determined the utter destruction of the Catawbias, of which I gave you immediate Notice, confirms my suspicions, but the News brought lately from Onondaga by your own Country woman puts their designs against you in a clear light, she has been long kept a Prisoner amongst them, but at length made her escape through many dangers and came through many different Countries, to give you notice that their design is to kill and Scalp all the Men, to make Prisoners of the Women and Children, and to burn your Towns with Fire, so that you may never more be a People, you may depend upon it that agreeable to your desire I shall without loss of time write both to the Governor of New York and to the Six Nations to represent all these matters, the Governor I make no doubt will pay a regard to what I write, and I hope the Six Nations will listen to reason, in the mean time the advice I now give you is to let a good number of your Warriours stay at home to guard your Towns and to defend your Women and Children from the Attacks of your Enemies, the French and Northern Indians. I have desired some of you to go to assist our Friends on the Ohio, and have written to the Cherokees to that purpose and shall again press both them and the Creeks to go, for I expect to have Conferences with both these Nations this Spring, and I tell you that it is my opinion that a sufficient number should stay at Home, to prevent the destruction of your Nation. It was probably owing to the good advice that I gave you last year that you were not then cut off, for a great body of French Indians came very near your Towns, but I suppose finding you upon your Guard they turned aside and cut off some White People, who expecting no such Visit, were taken by Surprise, they killed 16 upon the Spot and carried off Nine alive into the French Settlements; I shall also, agreeable to your desire, inform the Six Nations, that their Six Countrymen, who lately came from Virginia as Messengers of Peace to your Nation, and to invite the Creeks and Cherokees to the assistance of some of their Countrymen who live upon the Ohio River, had been all killed and Scalped, five of them by the

Chickesaws, and one by the Cherokees, tho neither the Chickesaws nor Cherokees could be much blamed for it as there was no White man with them, had they been sent to me they would probably have been safe, for I could have sent some of my People along with them to the Creeks and Cherokees.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Gov^r. Glens Speech
to Hagler King of the
Catabaws —

A LETTER FROM TIMOTHY WOODBRIDGE

In *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:627–28, is a letter from Timothy Woodbridge to Johnson, dated June 26th, conveying the petition of the Oquaga Indians for the abolition of the rum traffic in their country.

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:796–97, in Conrad Weiser's journal of a visit to the Mohawks, dated Philadelphia, September 2d, is an account of a stay at Mount Johnson, August 11–14, and of a meeting with Mohawk chiefs; p. 808–15, an account of a conference between Johnson and Mohawks at Mount Johnson, July 26–27, and between Johnson and the Six Nations, September 8–10, at Onondaga.

RICHARD SHUCKBURGH TO THOMAS POWNALL¹

New York, October 30, 1753

<A Narrative of w^h some Remarks Mem^r to Mention if
Required of what passed while I accompanied Col. Johnson>
among the Confederate <Nations of Ind^s at their Gen^rl Meet-
ing> at Onondaga & likewise <at Oswego, being what> fell
in Discourse from some of the Sachems <of the> Different
Castles without the Ordinary Forms of Belts of Wampum &c.
It is to be observd they resum'd of themselves the Conversation
the Next Day after the Gen^rl Conference; Whether they were
afraid of being heard by some french Men who were present at
y^e meeting or what other reason we could not assign why they
did not say as much in Publick the Day before as I am now to

¹ Printed in part in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:805–6.

Relate, viz: that the combin'd army of French & Ind^s that passed by Oswego this year on their way to Ohio, were in some measure dispers'd great Part of the Ind^s particularly of y^e Six Nations, having left them being much disgusted wth the arrogant behaviour of Monsiour Morang¹ and his proceedings a great Partizan among The french who Commanded in Chief both French & Ind^s that the Ind^s who return'd back were Surprized at the inactivity of the English & took upon them to say that they imagin'd had the Army proceeded compleat that all Philadelphia & Virginia woud have given up to them. We heard at Oswego that some Ind^s belonging to that Party had deserted Monsieur Morang & had sold their guns there & some other goods they got from the French. Two English prisoners of some figure were sent in Irons to Niagara in their way to Canada; these were seen by the Ind^s who return'd that the Twightwies & twelve other Nations or tribes had sent a large Belt of Wampum to the Six Nations to tell them that the French were coming Suddenly upon them that the Axs hung over their Heads and they only waited to hear their Opinion being unwilling as they were their allies to undertake any thing agst the French for fear of bringing them upon the Six Nations who have refer'd them to the Senekas being the nearest to the Twightwies. We have heard since that the Twightwies have submitted being unsupported & have been down to Canada to receive presents from the French & what <Injunction they may think fit to lay them under — by what we could learn> they & the Six Nations <too are very backward to undertake> anything agst. the French who <are so enterprising as to intimidate> all the Ind^s <in those parts it may> possibly in time make the whole British <American> Continent sensible that their Interests tho' in different Colonies are not so incompatible but it may be necessary to unite their Endeavours at whatever Expence to make as Strong a Party among y^e Ind^s agst. y^e <French> as they can in each Province. The apprehensions of Danger in time of Peace are too remote to be felt

¹Marin.

by a <People> involved in Trade & business but should a War break out it would be too late to wish matters had been preconcerted. Indian Affairs at present are managed merely by Expedients. I know of no Establish'd method of conducting them nor do I think as the Extent of Country in different parts which the French are continually encroaching & which belongs entirely to the Domains of the Crown that it ought to be left to y^e *management*¹ of one province or the other, but am humbly of opinion that his Majesty's Minister from the best information he can get of the People in the different Provinces that best understand such affairs, may from them appoint Agents or Residents in such of the Provinces to hold a continued Correspondence to inform Him of what passes. There has been in this Government an Establishment of Commissioners of Indian Affairs at Albany which seem'd to do mighty well till the War Broke out but even in peace there should be no state of inaction among the Ind^s & might have done well during that part just for that part of the Country where the People have a continued intercourse wth. the french by means of the Cannagas a Tacit Neutrality wth. the french & Inds. which are y^e same which is call'd the Ancient Establish'd Policy of that part of y^e Country who are nearest Danger in war time it might do well for them but ill suited the New England People & other the Kings Subjects. it was altering this that drew the odium of the whole Country upon Mr Clinton who was mov'd thereto by the incessant importunities of y^e New England People Commissioners <& I believe some intuition possibly from Gov^r Shirley in behalf of those People the Ind^s are divided among themselves by y^e continued artifices of y^e French & all I can> say farther is tho inclin'd <to us are afraid of them.

SRS>

Agreeable to y^r Request I have sent you <the above being the> most I could recollect to say more may be might <be thought> officious in me who am no ways Concern'd in <Provincial> Affairs it might be necessary to say more if my

¹ Over this word in the manuscript is written the word, Reglement.

worthy friend Col. Johnson was upon the Spot & it might be thought more authentick when he arrives shall acquaint you farther in the mean time I am

y^r very humble Serv^t.

R. SHUCKBURGH

Copy of memoran^d & Letter I wrote to Mr Pownall, Sr Danvers Osbourne's Secretary

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Some remarks on
Indian Affairs

ADDRESSED: To the Hon^{ble}. Will^m. Johnson Esq^r.
⌘ fav^r. of Doctor Colhoun

TO AND FROM CLINTON

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:804-5, is a letter of October 30th from Thomas Pownall, at New York, to the lords of trade, discussing Johnson's meeting at Onondaga and opposition in New York to his management; p. 806-7, a letter of November 2d from James De Lancey to the lords of trade in which that meeting is mentioned; p. 807-8 a letter of September 24th from Johnson to George Clinton on that meeting. In *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:629-30, are printed Clinton's instructions to Johnson, dated July 5th, for summoning the Six Nations to the meeting, at which an interview with the new governor is to be promised to the Indians for redressing grievances, and Johnson is to take the hatchet out of their hands.

TO OLIVER DE LANCEY¹

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

New York 5 Nov. 1753

SIR

The hurry of Business I have been engaged in for some time has prevented my writing to you sooner tho considering I should have acquainted you at that time with what I imagine would not have been very agreeable, you have by this means avoided that chagrin. Soon after I received your last Letter Mr. Clinton sent a written Message to me by the Doctor signifying that as he

¹ Letter of November 3, 1753. See Appendix.

perhaps should not see Sir Danvers¹ again and if he did should have so many other things to think of and do (for he proposed to speak to Sr. Danvers to facilitate the passing the Patent for the Land he was to have had in exchange) he chose to decline the Agreement he had made for his 1/6 of Stevens's Purchase. Thus the Matter stood till last Sunday se'nnight I went to take my leave of him, being determined before I set out to make him an offer for it, even more than I did had I found it necessary to go further, and after some Conversation on the Subject in which I easily made him agree with me that his landed Interest here was too inconsiderable to employ much of his Thoughts in England, I told him I would venture in your behalf to pay him the same as you paid me for mine. I that instant reflected on the Paper you sent me containing an Account of the Cash in your own writing which I had in my Pocket and tho I could hardly imagine he would doubt my word as to the Sum yet I thought it might have a tendency to determine him, sho'd he be in any dilemma what to do, and when he had perused it without any words more told me he would take £213 and if I sent him a deed and the Money would execute it. On the Wednesday following I sent the Deed and Money by Dr. Shuckburgh who had occasion to wait on him upon other Business and he brought me the deed regularly executed with the inclosed Receipt. Mrs. Clinton is not a party and therefore strictly speaking stil entitled to her Dower sho'd she survive him, but I would not give a Rush for it, and you have Covenants in the deed that will secure you; the Reason I chose not to make her a Party was least if she were privy to it she might possibly have thrown some difficulty in the way. I cannot help being of opinion that this will be rather more satisfactory to you than if he had abided by the Agreement for 10000 of the Susquehannah Purchase² as that must have cost you considerably more, e'er you had completed the Purchase regularly, and if the

¹ Sir Danvers Osborne, governor of New York, October 10 to 12, 1753.

² *Calendar of Land Papers*, p. 261; and *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:748.

Land be good as no doubt it must be it will very soon be valuable, especially if it be to the Northward of the Pensilvania Line as I suppose it is even of that laid down in Evans's¹ last Edition of his Map which I have been told underwent a second Impression purely on account of that Government extending their Northern Boundary further now than formerly. And if I had not have been perswaded it wo'd have been agreeable to you that I sho'd go this length on your Account, yet had I inclin'd to purchase it I would have give so much for it. As I have taken the deed in your Name you'l be pleased to send me your Note for £213: the Money you can send when it suits you I have no immediate need of it sho'd it be inconvenient to you or no Opportunity offer of sending it by a safe hand. I am glad you sent the deed of Sewall and the others which I got the Mayor to carry down with him and take the Proof of Sewall's executing it; who is dead: and Doctr. Ayscough and Mr. Simson were Witnesses, who it is possible we may never see again in this Country. I keep it with the other Writings relating to this Land, until you let me know what to do with them. I propose in the mean time to get them all proved that you may have them recorded when you think proper. I need not say any thing on the Subject of the late Alterations you've e'er now I dare say, been informed of every thing worth communicating to you. I am greatly obliged to you for your kind treatment and assistance to my Friend Mr. Dies and shall endeavour by rendering you all the Services here in my Power, in some measure to merit this and your other Favours.

Being with great Regard Sr.

your most obed^t. humble Servant.

G^w BANYAR

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Novbr. 5th. 1753

a Letter from

Goldsborrow Banyar

¹Lewis Evans. See *List of maps of America in Library of Congress*, by P. Lee Philips (Washington 1901), p. 672, also *Pennsylvania Archives*, 3d series, Appendix i-x, maps.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A letter from Banyar, of November 17, 1753, to Johnson, following the preceding in the Johnson Calendar, was destroyed in the fire. It concerned security for money advanced by the writer for Johnson in purchase of land from Governor Clinton, Johnson's proceedings at Onondaga, new rules to govern the taking up of lands and advisability of an early survey of the Susquehanna tract.

TO GOLDSBROW BANYAR

*A. Df. S.*¹

Know all Men by these presents that I William Johnson of Mount Johnson in the County of Albany & Province of New York do Owe, and am indebted unto M^r. Goldsborrow Banyar of the City of New York in the Sum of two Hundred & thirteen Pounds Current Money of S^d. Province to be paid unto the Said Goldsborrow Banyar his Executors Adm^{rs}. or Assigns on the first Day of May next ensuing the Date hereof. He delivering me a Conveyance from the late governour Clinton of one Sixth part of a Tract of Land granted to Arent Stevens² & others to Which payment well & truely to be made I bind myself My Heirs Executors & Administrators firmly by these presents. In Witness Whereof I have hereunto Sett my Hand and Seal this fifth Day of Decbr. 1753

W. J—

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Decbr. 5th. 1753

Coppy of a Bill to Goldsborrow
Banyar payable the first of
May next for £213 —

¹ Inclosed in Johnson to Banyar, December 5, 1753, q. v.

² *Calendar of Land Papers*, p. 270, 271, 272.

TO GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. Df. S.

Xbr. 5th. 1753¹S^R.

Your kind favours of the 5th. & 17th. Ult^o. Just now rec^d. on my return from the Woods where I have been some time busy running y^e. lines of a purchase made by Virtue of a Lycence granted to James Stewart & Cop^y.² I shall Send you the Indian purchase by the first good oportunity in order to have a Pattent for it as Soon as conveniently may be. it is ab^t. 18000 Acres — I cannot sufficiently Express the gratefull Sense I have of the kindness you have done me in purchasing the gov^{rs}. Sixth part of Steven's Pattent, and advanceing the Money. a favour I could not have expected nor presumed to Ask, which renders the Obligation greater. I inclose you my Bill for the Money and wish You may receive it, as I send this to Miller to forward it by y^e. first oportunity. You will hear from me shortly, when I shall have more time to Answer Yours in full & communicate something maybe to our mutual advantage. Untill then let me assure You I am

Y^r. Welwisher& oblidged & Humble Serv^t.

W. J—

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Decbr. 5th. 1753

Corry of a Letter to

M^r. Goldsborrow Banyar

STEPHEN COFFIN'S STORY

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar by the story of Stephen Coffin, for six or seven years a prisoner among the French, dated January 10, 1754 (Printed in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:835-37). This paper was not destroyed.

¹ In *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:641-42, is a list of sundry warrants and allowances in favor of Johnson from December 1, 1746, to 1753 included.

² *Calendar of Land Papers*, p. 276.

FROM JAMES HAMILTON

L. S.

*Philadelphia 19 March 1754*¹

SIR

I am informed that a Party of private People residing in the Province of Connecticut, under a Pretence of some extensive Words in their <Charter,> have published their Intention, even among our own Inhabitants, <of coming> this Spring in a Body into this Province, and forcibly settling <some> of the Proprietaries Lands in the very Center of our Province: and <that> they were likewise hardy enough to make this known to the Govern<ment> of Connecticut, who disavowing their Proceedings, they thereupon <turned> their Thoughts towards the Indians of the Five Nations,² and <having> made up a Purse to give them for their Right to those Lands, <they, as> I am further informed, now intend to apply to You for your <Interest> and Sollicitation in their Behalf with those Indians.

Though I have not the Honour of your personal Acquaintance, yet <from> your Character both publick and private which is well known <to me,> I should not entertain the least Doubt that You woud encourage a <Party> of private Men, as this is, disavowed by their own Government, <to> make Contracts with the Indians for the Sale of Lands, either in this <or> Cannecticut Province, being contrary to the Laws of both Places and <pro>ductive of many fatal Consequences.

Nor can I have the least Suspicion, that if the Application was made <openly> to the Council of Onondaga, with whom this Government only <treats> for Lands, as they know their Engagements to sell to our Proprietaries all the Lands within this

¹ In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:828-29, is printed a letter of February 26th from the lords of trade to James De Lancey in which the mission of Johnson to the Six Nations in the previous September is approved.

² Origin of the Wyoming settlement. See Justin Winsor, *Narrative and Critical History of America*, 5:180; also John Fiske, *The American Revolution*, 2:105-7.

Province when their Indians shall encline to leave them, or the Encrease of the Inhabitants requires a larger Extent of Country, but they would reject the Application of these <People with the> greatest Indignation; as contrary to the Faith of Treaties <subsisting between> this Province and their Nations, and particularly as <their own Indians> now live on the Lands and use them for hunting, and they <have repeatedly> in their Treaties besought this Government that they might <not be settled,> and Proclamations at their Instance have accordingly <issued strictly,> charging all Persons to forbear making any Settlements <in those parts> of the Province.

But the Indians being liable to the Temptation of Liquor, <and when> disordered therewith apt to be imposed upon and for Money <grant any> Applications from any Body for Lands, though when sober <they would> condemn themselves and be sorry for what they had done <I am apprehen>sive if they are not put upon their Guard, that these Practices <may be> tried upon them, and these ill minded People when they <have got> Indian Deeds no matter how obtained, nor from whom, <may set up> these Titles, and so pervert the Minds of the Inhabitants <and introduce> intestine Broils and endless Disorders amongst Us.¹

Knowing your Zeal for the Publick Good of the Colonies, <and the> Regards frequently Shewn by You, in your early Intelligences, <to this> Province, I entreat You would be pleased to put the Indians <upon their> Guard as Opportunity serves You against the attempts of these <People,> which You must be sensible might not only alienate the Affections <of the> Six Nations by taking from them against their will the Possession of a favourite Part of the Country, but might also draw on a <Civil War> within this Province, as the Government would be obliged to oppose such tumultuous Settlements and Intrusions, and thus prove particularly hurtful to the general Interest at this

¹ See Deed of Land from Indians to Some People of Connecticut, July, 1754, p. 405.

Time, when the French have actually invaded this Province, and We are likely to be involved in a War to repel them.

As this Government has determined to send Commissioners to the general Interview at Albany, I shall direct some of the Commissioners to wait on You in order to confer further with You of what may be necessary to be done on this Occasion, in the meantime, I shall be much obliged to You to use your good offices in behalf of this Government, so far as that nothing may be done with the Indians by the Connecticut Agents or any Others in their Behalf to the Injury of the Proprietaries of this Province.

I am with great respect S^r

Your most obedient humble Ser^{vt}

JAMES HAMILTON

WM. JOHNSON Esqr.

FROM JOHN FITCH AND OTHERS¹

<Colony of Connec^t April 2nd 1754²

S^R

Wee doubt> not but That the affair of a <Number In this Colony Indeavoring> to make a purchase of a <large Tract of> Land on Susquehannah River Near a place <or Island Called> Chiwarauch has before This time reached <your Ears butt as> we have allways Since our proposal of That affair Supposed To accomplish it by means of your Influence that is, if you Thought it for the publick good, to which wee Doubt not our Success Therein will greatly Contribute, We have Therefore once before Desired, Mr Woodbridge of Stockbridge our Company's Agent in This affair to apply To you for advice and assistance in This affair but he Then fail'd of waiting on you by reason of your being att Newyork, Therefore as wee know there

¹ A. L. S. of Fitch, L. S. of the others.

² In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:834, in a letter of April 22d from James De Lancey to the lords of trade, is mention of the deposition of Stephen Coffin, which was obtained by Johnson.

has been diverse representations of this affair and of our Conduct Therein, beg Leave To Trouble you with a Short Sketch of our proceedings To This time which may be depended on for Truth In This affair.

About Two years ago a number of our people understanding There was a large Tract of Land verry good Soil & Uncultivated not Specially Claimed by any but The Natives lying on Susquehannah, att the place above mentioned & further apprehending that by the Extent of our Charter, it was Included In it and not Covr'd by any other Except of a later date therefore a large Number of our people aplied To our Gen^l Assembly for a Quit Claim of the Coloneys right, by Their memorial Continued To This Time.

The Next Step was, a large Number of the memorialists and others mett att Windham further To Consult This affair sometime In July last, when wee Concluded to Send four or five persons To View the Land as to its goodness Examine The Claims To it and as far as They Could to know wether the Native proprietors, would Sell Their right whom we understood To be the five Nations. according the S^d persons undertook the Jorney, returned with an account favorable to our undertaking and upon This our Design Took air and began To be The Topick of much Talk in This and the adjacent Coloneys <Not long after This another meeting att Windham agreed to be admitt> in our Company to the number <of 500 persons> to be in Some measure proportioned <In the Various> parts of this Coloney, not refusing some Principal men in the other Governments <which was> soon filld up by a great many Gentⁿ of <Interest &> Influence, and Thereupon Concluded To Send our <agent> to wait on you further to advise, as we Thought the affair to be pregnant with good to the Several Governments if Succeeded Therein, for as wee proposed to purchase of the whole 5 or 6 Tribes and To Settle it immediately, apprehend it would be the greatest Security of Their Interest and friendship and The best Security against their being Drawn away by The French. With

This View wee have Sought the approbation of our Gov^r who faviors our design from them principals and Motives, which wee Can't butt think when you View In the Same Light your friendship and Interest will not be wanting In The affair and Trust the Same Cannot be against but rather Conducive to your own Interest, but, S^r wee are Sensible you have the best acquaintance In these matters. As to the only thing wee at Present have Thrown In our way is by one M^r Hugh Ledlie that Lives att Windham, where all These affairs was Carrying on had allways The oppertunity of Joyning with us but seemed att once Disaffected att we know not what Satt up that he would Defeat us if In his power, accordingly wee understand he applied to M^r Chew of New London, and Indeavored to have him use his Interest wth you to oppose our designs while They Themselves made up a small party in order to purchase the Same, but we have no fears from This Quarter Except they have prejudiced your mind against our proceedings which we Doubt not will Soon Vanish when the Whole appears To you in its True light. This undermining attempt after <Six months Engagement and large Sums of money Spent by us we> Leave to Speak for it <Self. We hear> that his Excel^{cy} the Gov^r of Pensilvania <is lately> alarmed att our proceeding has Sent a letter <To our> Gov^r Intimating that if wee proceed it will <disaffect> the Indians in This Crittical Juncture of <affairs> which will as he apprehends hurt the Genr^l <Interest> and grounds his fears of This Nature as he Says he understands wee Design to make our purchase only of the Mohawk Tribe In neglect of or In opposition to the other Tribes, which misrepresentation of the affair to him is the occasion of the fears of the mischevious Effect wth the Indians which a purchase from the whole Tribes will not only prevent the mischeifs but Engage & Confirm Their friendship; but as the Gen^t who will wait on you wth This Letter will be able to give you much better Intelligence of the whole affair than wee are able In writeing and would only further Suggest that if it appears to be for the Gen^l publick Interest or if it is not against

it as we are the first undertakers, you would fav^r us with your
Influence We hope In the Issue & Event it will prove beneficial
To you & us Wee only add that we are In behalf of our Selves &
Company

your Hon^{rs} most obedient humble Ser^{ts}

JOHN FITCH
SAM^{LL}. GRAY
THO^S SEYMOUR
DAN^{LL} EDWARDS
ELIPHELET DYAR
JEDEDIAH ELDERKIN

ADDRESSED: For The Hon^{ble}. Will^m. Johnson Esq^r.
In The Province of New York
at Mount Johnson

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: April 2^d. 1754
Letter from a Committee
of Connecticut Government

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.¹

New York 9th May 1754

SIR

I was with Mr. Colden yesterday about your Indian Deed,
which he delivered me, but with the same blank as you left in it,
assuring me there was no vacancy there: he says one of the Lots
must be Surveyed before he can make a Return which You'l get
his Brother to do and send as soon as possible. I must then pro-
ceed with the rest according to the directions you left me, and if
I can get the patent Sealed before I come to Albany I intend it.
The Attorney Generals Fees will be at £3 ^{per} Name £36 which
I shall advance for you if it be necessary. But it is requisite you
either write to the Governor about his Fees, or send a Note of
hand for them, if there be Twenty four thousand Acres, it will

¹ First two paragraphs in handwriting of a clerk.

amount at £12. 10. to £300. should the Council pass it without Difficulty it may be done out of hand. This is all I think of at present concerning your affairs. I shall now beg leave to trouble you with mine as I am convinced you will readily oblige me and I am under a necessity of desiring it or suffering greatly in my Interest. When in Town I spoke to you of McNeils and McKillips affair, and you promised to do everything in the matter you could. I told you, I think, I was to be concerned in the purchase. Mr. Colden Says there may be some vacancy, but not so much as expected, whatever there be I should be glad of having Purchased (for if the other partners would not be concerned I would take it myself) and that you would either pay the Indians or give your Note for the money to be paid them, I should prefer the last method, unless it appears very Clearly the Lands are vacant. I desire this favour in case the partners cannot advance it: there's only McKillip there, and when he was lately here I took the Liberty of desiring him to apply to you, and to carry the Indians and make the bargain in your presence. The Lycence will expire the ninth day of August next, and it will be very Difficult if practicable to get another.

There will shortly be sent up to Mr. Colden a Warrant in the Names of John Myer and Augustine Moore,¹ to Survey 4000 Acres left out of the late purchase of Adam and Theobald Young &^{ca}. The Mayor and myself are equally concerned in it. Dr Colden wou'd have returned it without a Survey from the Draft of the purchase of Youngs Patent, but we choose a Survey, because of viewing the Lands and getting the best returned. The Indians may possibly (tho very unjustly) make some difficulty in permitting Mr Colden to Survey the Land, tho' it is already and little more than a year ago paid for. It may be in your power to clear this up, without paying them anything, if not we beg your favour in the affair, and that if necessary you will advance them a small consideration for their Right. I write to Mr Colden by this opportunity of Mr. Farrall begging his Interest in these two affairs.

¹ *Calendar of Land Papers*, p. 284.

The French as usual have been beforehand with us. On the 17 ulto. upwards of 1000 of them came to a small Fort¹ commanded by one Mr. Ward,² an Ensign of Cap^t. Trents, and obliged him and his party to quit it, they had 18 ps of Artillery, this Fort is built on the Fork of Monongahela where I understand the Virginians were to have raised the one they intended to have built. The French suffered the officer and his party to retire with their Stores &c I wish I had time to send you a Copy of their Sumons You may expect it by my next. Our two Comp^s. are embarked to the number of about 170 men. As far as I can observe in Mr. Dinwiddies last Line when all our Force is collected it will not exceed 1000 Men exclusive of Indians if they get any. The half King as they call him has made a very short but Pithy Speech, in which he invites their Brothers the English to strike now and they are ready to join them, not to delay, or they are all lost &c. The assembly after passing a Bill in which they had given 1000£ for Provision for the two Comp^s. (which was rejected by the Council on Account of the method of issuing the Money) wou'd grant not a farthing towards this Service and the Comp^s. are to be victualled only till they land in Virginia which Expence the Governor has engaged for. If you send me any directions about your Patent let it be soon, or perhaps the proceedings may be too forward. I am with great Respect Sr

Your most obliged humble Servant,

G^w BANYAR

I hear nothing from Magin

COL. JOHNSON

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: May 8th. 1754

Mr. Banyars Letter

CORRESPONDENCE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS³

¹ Afterward Duquesne.

² *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:840-43, and *Writings of George Washington*, ed. Jared Sparks, 2:6, 11-13.

³ Abstract from June 3, 1749-June 18, 1754. See Appendix.

ORDERS TO OFFICERS OF THE SECOND BATTALION

D. S.

June 6, 1754

<Orders>

Whereas I have received severall Accounts of the French of <Canada> threatening a Discent on some part of this County, & last Night an Express arrived at my House importing the same, and that they were Actually Marched. Wherefore I think it for His Majesty's Service, as well as the safety of the Inhabitants of this County in particular that the Militia be kept in such Order, and readiness as that they may be fitt to March at a Moments Notice should the French attempt any such thing as from their Proceedings lately, and daily Behaviour we have no reason to doubt they may. Wherefore you are required Imediately on Receipt of these my Orders, to send your Serjants to Warn your Company to hold themselves in readiness to March when and where required. Herof fail not. Given under my Hand this 6th day of June 1754

W^m. JOHNSON COLL^o.

Corry

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Corry of my Orders
 June 6th. 1754
 to all the Officers of y^e.
 Second Battalion.
 on Acc^{tt}. of an Express arrived
 wth. news y^t. y^e. French were
 on their March this Way

THE ALBANY CONGRESS

This document is followed in the Johnson Calendar by Proceedings of the Congress of seven colonies at Albany on Indian affairs, with plan of union of eleven in one general government, June 19—July 11 (printed in *Doc. Hist.*, N. Y., 2:545-617; Q 2:317-60, and except commissions, in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist.* N. Y., 6:853-92) The Proceedings were not destroyed in the fire. In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist.* N. Y., 6:897-99, are printed Johnson's suggestions for defeating the designs of the French, read at the Albany Congress.

DEED OF LAND FROM INDIANS TO SOME PEOPLE OF
CONNECTICUT

Extract

Extract from the Deed procured by some Connecticut People
from the Indians Dated July 1754

Names of the Indians who signed the same

Kahiktoton, Abraham Peters, William Taraghioris, Brant
Kaweghnagey, Hendrick Peters, Teranoge, Canageagoaie,
Caghowaghtuone, Seth Jestarara, Johanis Signagarat, Caristago,
Senossis, Aquiota, Skaroyady, Tageghsadde, Skanarady
£2000 Y¹ Curr Consideration in hand paid

1705 Dollars paid in all

Evidences James Sharp, Sybrant G. Vanscaick May^r ² Martin
Lyddius, John Wendall, Jacob VanWorst Jun^r

Witnesses Ephraim Williams Junior, Joseph Kellog

Boundaries— Beginning from the 41st Deg. of North Lat. at
10 miles distance East of Susquehanna River, & from thence with
a Northward Line, ten Miles East of the River to the 42^d or
beginning of the 43^d. Degree North Latitude, and So to Extend
West 2 Degrees of Longitude 120 miles, and from thence South
to the beginning of the 42^d Degree, and from thence East to the
aforementioned Bounds which is Ten Miles East of the Susque-
hanna River, together &c.

INDORSED: Extracts from the Deed procured by some Con-
necticut People from the Indians for some Lands
on the River Susquehanna in 1754.

¹ York.

² Sybrant G. Van Schaick was mayor of Albany from 1756 to 1761.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

New York 23^d. July, 1754

SIR

After a Passage of 4 days and a half we arrived here the 16th. all in good Health: Since which we have had an Account of Major Washington's Defeat.¹ the inclosed is the News as we have it, tho' very imperfect. I can hardly credit that part of it, which says, our own Indians fought agst. us. There is no Advice of the Affair from Mr. Dinwiddie, but an Express is daily expected with it. I dare say when we hear the truth it will appear unfavourable enough on our side. It would be some Consolation to us under this Loss, might we depend on its raising in the Colonies a proper Resentment, and put them upon raising Supplies of Men and Money, but I fear this is rather to be wish'd for than expected. A French Deserter who left them after they took the Fort at Monongahela,² says they had only 500 Men at that Time, but before the Season was over expected 4 000: If the Inhabitants begin to move off, as it is said they do, now when they have only 1 000 Men at most, and we near that number, tho not as yet collected, to oppose them, what a Panick will they be in, if the French should bring so many into the Field, and what will they say, whose Duty and in whose Power it is to prevent the impending Evil, if thro their Neglect all the back Settlements on that quarter should be abandoned, as is likely to be the Case in a very little time: Whatever they may say, I should have no objection to their changing Situations with these poor Wretches, that they might from thence learn to compassionate the Misfortunes of others.

I have inclosed an Account of all the Warrants drawn in your Favour, with my Observations as to the Warrant you thought you were still intitled to. If you have the Assembly's State of your

¹ Surrender of Fort Necessity, July 3, 1754.

² Duquesne.

Account, you will upon considering that, and by examining your Certificates, know if you have any thing more due than they, (the Assembly) allow you; and whether it can be drawn by Warrant, or is provided for already by any particular Act, or remains to be provided for. From the time you began to supply the Garrison till you gave it up, Warrants ought to have been issued regularly for a single Command as directed in the Oswego Act, you will see by the inclosed how that Matter is, But as to the double Command no Warrant can issue, unless directed by some particular Act, for as I have already observed the Oswego Act directs only for an officer and so many Men as is usually term'd a single Command, I dont know how many, but the Act mentions it.¹ I shall keep the Certificates you gave me till I see you, as for ought I know you may have Money due upon it yet.

I wrote the above yesterday, I went this Morning to Mr. A: Colden to know where your Patent stop'd that I might set it forward by preferring a Petition in the Names of the Persons you delivered me when here, He read me that part of your Letter to him, desiring him to make no Objectⁿ. against the whole being granted: I believe you may depend on his as well as the Friendship of every other who can serve you in this Matter: But this Objection must be got over w^{ch}. I suppose the Council will make and consider of. Whether as to the Crown's fourth part, if they should be inclined to grant it to you, they can let it pass upon the footing of the old Instructions. I shall not fail to suggest in your Behalf all the Reasons I may think of weight, particularly the Advantage which may redownd to the province from the Settlement of that part of the Country; that People will hardly care to accept of Lands there on such high quit Rent, and that as to the Crown's 4th., as this Right arose by a Regulation of the Council, they might at any time give it up to the parties who purchased the Land. But then again sho'd they do this, as they well might considering your publick Services, others might expect the same, and

¹Twenty-five men and a doctor, *The Colonial Laws of New York*, 3:367 (passed September 1, 1744).

use this Instance as an Argument. Let me know then if you please, whether if you cannot obtain the whole on the old Instructions, you will desire a Grant of the Crown's part on the Terms of the new Instructions. Think whether among the List of Names you gave me, there be not any disabled to convey Viz^t. Foreigners unnaturalized or Persons under age, if so, change them for others, I dont suppose I have mislaid your List, but when you are writing you may send me down another. Are there no other Persons, of the same Name, if so, they must be distinguished by proper Additions I am very Particular because I would avoid all Obstructions to the finishing the Affair. You remember the Blank for Butlers Lott in your Indian Deed, which Mr. A Colden tells me his Brother surveyed and left the Map or Survey of with you, neither he or myself care to insert the Boundaries of this Lott in the Deed if we had them, and therefore I am laid under the necessity of sending it inclosed, that you may do it your self, especially as it is in your own hand Writing the deed is drawn: and this is the Reason why the Affair must stop till you return me the Deed. On looking into the deed I found your List of which I send you a Copy which you may return with remarks if there be any Occasion for them. I can think of nothing else about this Affair except it be where I shall get Cash to pay the Attorney General, the rest it may perhaps be in my Power to manage one way or other. Be very full if you please in your Answer, that I may without troubling you again, carry the thing through.

As to M^c.Kellips Purchase, Mr. Colden, mistaking the Line of one of the Lotts in Wageners Patent, for the general line or Boundary of the Patent, has included of Wageners about one third of what he surveyed for M^c.Kellip: I suppose the Indians would readily give him as much in any place contiguous, but I doubt if there be any vacancy near or adjoining: Until I see Mr. C Colden I dont know whether it may be worth while to take a Patent for the quantity left which is about 3000 @ or little more, and to be divided among five; So that I must desire if the

Indians want any thing to be advanced on the Note, which I understand you have signed, you will not let them have it. I have nothing further to add but that I am with very great regard

D^r Sir

Your most Obed^t.

hble Servant

GW BANYAR

COL. JOHNSON

INDORSED BY JOHNSON:

July 23^d. 1754

Goldsborrow Banyars Letter

Concerning my Pattent

TO GOLDSBROW BANYAR

D^f.

Mount Johnson, July 29th. 1754

SIR.

Your kind favour of the 23^d. Inst. I received last Night, and assure You it gave me great pleasure to hear of Your & the rest of the Gentlemens Safe arrival & short passige.

the verry oblidgeing manner in which you write to me together with your well timed care of my Affairs there, demand my hearty thanks, and at all times my most particular Acknowledgement.

The Unlucky defeat of our Troops Commanded by Major Washinton gave me the Utmost Conscern. I have been always of opinion Since I knew our weakness there, that we should be banged by the French, and that, that would be attended with verry bad consequences. I am afraid we will, now first begin to feel the sore effects of it, for this will not only animate the French, & their Indians, but stagger the resolution of those inclined to Us, if not effectually draw them from our Interest. It will also be a Means of makeing all the out settlers of the Southern Colonies break up, who lie quite exposed, (as well as Us) to the ravages & cruelty of every little Scalping party of French, and Indians, Who doubtless will now be employed

against them, this may with all ease be done, as they have only to send out detachments from their Severall new Garrisons, and paultry Commanderies against the back Settlements Capable of makeing no defence against such a private & Blood thirsty pack of Devils. I wish Washington had acted with prudence & Circumspection requisite in an officer of his Rank, and the trust at that time reposed in him, but (on considering the affair) I cant help Saying he was verry wrong in many respects, and I doubt His being too ambitious of acquiring all the honour, or as much as he could, before the rest Joined him, and giveing to much Credit to the reports or Acc'ts. given by the French deserters, (which did not at all Shew him the Soldier) was the rock on which he Splitt. he should rather have avoided an Engagement until our Troops were all Assembled, for Marching by Detachments in such a close country, and against such an Enemy, will never do, w^h. if you observe, Y^l. always find it so. for my own part, from the small experience, & knowledge I have of the French management &c. and of our disunited State on the continent, I can without much of a Prophetick Spirit foresee the ruin of this country verry shortly without the imediate interposition of his Majesty & Parliament, which I most earnestly wish, and warmly pray for above all things, as nothing else will save us, who seem not at all inclined to help ourselves, or so much infatuated that we will not. excuse my saying so much on this subject, my Passion raised by our Misconduct & to say no worse hurried my pen farther than I intended.

As to the officers Certificates, I cant tell whether I delivered them all to Gov^r. Clinton, or not. I was verry careless about them I must own at that time, little imagineing I should ever have the least difficulty in getting my money so justly due, this I know that I supplied oswego garrisons, then consisting of one hundred, men, half regulars, and half militia with the last half years Provisions, w^h. Harkemer &ca were by their contract oblided to furnish, And from that time, which I think was May 1746 I supplied s^d. garrison with Provisions Until May 1749, which in

all was three years and a half. It is impossible for me to know what still remains due for that Service. the Payments made were so confused intermixed, & puzzling, as tho, there had been some design in it. By the inclosed Coppy of the Assemblys Genteel Settlement of my Acc^{ts}. You will see they allow £288 to be due Still, & to be paid by Warrant. I herewith send you some receipts I had among my papers, also them you gave me out of the office last year, w^h. I think should remain wth. you. this I am certain of, that there is money due to me still for supplying Oswegoe let the mistake be were it will, and I hope it may now be settled, so that I can get my Money.

As to the Lands purchased and paid for by me last year, adjoining Steven's Patten, I am resolved (If I cannot have the whole agreeable to Mr. A: Coldens draught, together with the vacancy between Butler ¹ as inserted in the Indian deed) to let it drop intirely, or lye as it is. for I thought my makeing so large a settlement, and so much to the Northward as I intended, and have begun would (from the great benefit it must certainly have been to the Publick) rather meet with all the Encouragement, such an Undertakeing deserved, than otherwise. You are pleased to observe it would be a president for others, if it should be thought so I am, and ever have been far from being fond, or in the least desirous of setting an Ill president, tho I must beg leave to say I know of no Case parrallel to it, even exclusive of any merit in me or the least regard for any services I may have done the Crown, or country. where is there a man, of all those who have taken up great tracts of land in these parts a Century ago I may say and ever since, who has ever been Publick spirited enough to settle a Family back in the woods as I have, and am still resolved to do? Altho not possesed of it above a year. I could say a great deal more on this Subject, but desist, only adding that if the Gov^r. &c. should think proper to grant the whole agreeable to the survey, I have for that purpose returned the Indian Deed as compleat as I could make it, without getting

¹ Vacant place in the manuscript.

a new one which in my present hurry of business, would be to much trouble. I have desired Mess^{rs}. Colden & Kelly to advance you the money for the Kings Attorney, the rest I shall make up I hope whenever I go to York, at the same time I am extremely obliged to you for your kind offer. I have altered some of the names w^h. were to be inserted in the P^{at}ent, as part of them are removed from hence. you need not be anyway uneasy at my taking in the garoge Creek,¹ for should your lott fall there, I will give you what part of s^d. Creek you may want to make your lott compleat I cant think your right will come so far back as to interfere with mine, after all this should the gov^{rs}. counsil &^c make any difficulty about granting the whole, I would then desire to let it lye as it is, w^h. I mentioned before so often that makes needless repetitions

I am sorry for the disappointment you are like to meet with, in that purchase of M^c.Kellops, I question whether there be any lands vacant, Contiguous worth takeing up, I can say little ab^t. it as I am an entire stranger to that part of the country, but this I can assure you, that if M^cKellop, or any other for you can find any land thereabouts worth adding to that already Surveyed, my good offices shall not be wanting in the affair and altho I have given the Ind^{ns}. my Note of hand for the money, they shall not have it without your Orders, w^h. in this or anything else shall always be duly regarded by S^r.

Your Sincere Welwisher
& Hum^{ble}. Servant

GOLDS BORROW BANYAR Esq^r.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: July 29th. 1754
Copy of a Letter to
Golds B^{row}. Banyar

¹ In Fulton county.

ORDERS TO JACOBUS VAN SLYCK

Df.

Orders

August 30, 1754

As the French of Canada with their Indians have now committed hostilities within this County in open Violation of the Treaty subsisting between that Crown & Us, by treacherously Attacking and distroying the Settlement of Hosock¹ I think his Majesty's Service as well as the safety of the People of this part of the County calls aloud upon us now to exert ourselves, and guard against any attempt, or perfidious Schemes, which may be concerted, or tryed, by that vile set of people, who are void of Sincerity, and regardless of all faith & Treaties; In Order to do which, as far, as in us Lyes, you are hereby required, to see that all the Companys there be Instantly equipped, & provided with proper arms, and amunition and that you keep a strict watch in Town, where it may appear to you, and the officer there to be most serviceable. The guard must be regular, and not allow'd to Commit any Indecencys, or give any Insults to the Kings Garrison there, as I am Sorry to hear, has been done heretofore. You are to make a Report to me of the State of the Block houses &c. there, and let me know were your guard mounts & the Number. Hereof fail not.

Given under my hand at

Mount Johnson, this 30th day of

August 1754.

To CAPTAIN JACOBUS VANSLYKE
or in his absence to the most

Commanding officer In Schenectady

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: August 30th. 1754

Coppy of my orders

to Capt. Vanslyke

on Hosocks being cutt off.

¹ August 27, 1754.

TO JAMES DE LANCEY

In *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:642-44, is a letter from Johnson to James De Lancey on means of defending Oswego and his endeavors to maintain the efficiency of the militia, dated September 8th.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

New York 25th: September 1754

DEAR SIR:

I have your agreeable Favour of the 29 July but was willing to wait the Event of the Petition I gave into the Council in your Behalf for the whole 24,000 acres, before I did myself the pleasure of answering it. if the Doctor¹ has not through the hurry of his affairs, forgot to write or tell you the Reception it met with when it was referred, and before the Committee; I believe you must have had no opinion of its passing; it is however to mine, and I hope to your great satisfactⁿ. passed unanimously, on the Terms of Mr. Clintons Instruct^s. Your own merit and publick Services carried it through. Schuyler's, is not yet reported, tho referred some weeks before yours, nor will the Dispute that Hendrick and his Son came down to the Governor about, relating to this Land be alone sufficient to induce the Council to grant the whole; if the whole passes, it must be on Condition that 4000 acres of it be for two of the Board, and other 4000 @ of it, the Parties consented the Major and myself should have, instead of 3000 we loose by this unreasonable interposition of the Indians, a Mischief to which there's likely to be no End, if such barefaced demands meet with a Compliance; it is true, we gain 1000 acres, but we pay as much again as we should if no Controversy had been raised about it. I cou'd wish to be no further concerned, rather than in Lands attended with these disputes — I can declare on my part they were unlooked for.

¹ Dr Richard Ayscough.

I am seriously concerned for the late Mischief done at Hoseck, but am I confess inclined to believe they will not carry it so farr as the People in your County apprehend, tho I am a little Shaken in my opinion when I consider the Intelligence from the Gov^r. of New Hampshire, who in a ~~L~~re¹ to our Governor reced. last Saturday (the 21st.) informs him, that the Enemy have killed or taken, about twenty Persons, and that this has occasioned the breaking up of above thirty new *Townships*, not single Settlements; The Governor is fully of opinion that a Company of Rangers both whites and Indians, would be of great Service, but you know he cannot raise Money, and nobody he supposes will stirr upon the Faith of the Governm^t's paying them; let them pay you, and perhaps it may induce some to venture again. I should not wish to see you among the Number: Large Supplies are expected to be granted at the next Meeting of the Assembly, to answer which, it is imagined they will have recourse to the old expedient of striking Bills. If so, the Governour will lay hold of this, or the first favourable juncture to recommend the Payment of the Moneys advanced by you, and not barely recommend it, but use all his Interest with the Members: from his hearty expressions to serve you in this Affair, and the Conversation I have had with Mr. Watts, on the Subject, I cannot doubt you will, e'er it be long, receive the whole of your demand, except Interest, which tho' justly due, they will probably keep back, to deterr others from advancing, or at least so liberally, as it is said you have done, meaning for the maintainance of the French Gentlemen and their Attendants. There would be no great appearance I think, should they even allow you Interest, that others would run such risques for the future. It is very probable the Governor will press the Assembly to provide for Rangers, which there is as great likelihood they will comply with, as that they will make a Provision for placing the management of Indian affairs in the Hands of the only Person that has any Influence or Interest among them In how strange a light must this Conduct appear to every unpre-

¹ Letter.

judiced Person, were I to stop to make Reflections of this sort, whither must they carry me. I shall therefore only say that I heartily join in the Prayer of the Author of the summary view &c in the last Gazette printed here, since I look upon a Plan of that nature as the only cure to this political Malady.

The Ohio Expedition wears but an indifferent aspect at present. You see in the Papers the £20,000 the Virginia Assembly voted, miscarried; the dispute mentioned is this: He insisted (the Gov^r. I mean) on a Pistole Fee for every Patent that had been granted tho not signed or issued by his Predecessor, exceeding 400 @; The assembly opposed it so strongly, that they sent a Representation against him, the Result of which was that he is not to have any Fee for those Patents then in the office, but in lieu of it, is to have a pistole for every one he shall grant exceeding 50 acres. The solliciting this Matter cost them 2500 their Currency, and to pay this they tack'd a Clause to the Bill for the £20,000, which the Council would not pass, and they are now prorogued to the 17th: next Month.

I have understood you recommended the present Sherif¹ to be continued the ensuing year. The Governor would gladly have obliged you in this, but so great is the Clamour agst. him in Albany on account of the late Affair, that he thinks when you reflect upon it, you will be of opinion with him that he ought not to be continued: The Members just before they went recommended one Yates,² who I imagine will be appointed, tho it will be as far as I can find barely from the Recommendation. However political it may be esteemed in a Governor to give into such Recommendations, without Exception as has been almost always the Case when a Governor has been well with his Assembly, that he might preserve this Influence among them: Yet so few and trifling are the favours a Governour wants at their Hands, that it would be more for his Honour, and evidently more for the Interest of the province to appoint only fit Persons in every office;

¹ Richard Miller, see Banyar to Johnson, October 2, 1754.

² Abraham Yates, *idem*.

Every Body knows the assembly have generally in their view to secure their next Election by this means, and therefore pay little Regard to the other qualifications of the persons.

The Governor in one of his late Letters to you desires you will freely write your Sentiments upon Indian Affairs: He must undoubtedly be much obligd to you, since no one else that I know of, can give him any material Information on this Point. The publick can have little Reason to think you will give yourself much Concern about Indian affairs from the Treatment you have met with at the Hands of their Representa¹ But I am far from believing you will, tho you might very justly, carry your Resentment this length. It is impossible for any one, who has Interest and Abilities in these Matters equal to your Self, to sit as an unconcerned Spectator, and tho for want of the proper Supplies, as well as proper Measures being taken, any thing you might suggest cannot have its full Effect, yet even under these difficulties, any hints from you might be of great use: I have done on this Subject, I only mention'd it, because by your Silence on this Head you gave the Governor Reason to make the Request to you.

I shall go on with your Patent. Mr. Colden will pay the Atty. Gen^{ls}. Fees, and I suppose wait till he sees you to settle his own, the Governor will take a Note for his and the Secretary's shall be no Obstacle to the Sealing the Patent. If you have any other Business here that requires your presence, should your affairs with the assembly come upon the Carpet, as I believe they will, especially if they go to striking, it must be of infinite Advantage to you to be on the Spott: the Governor you may be assured will push the Matter the first favourable Opportunity.

The Dover is come in, 6 weeks from London, but as it was the time of grand vacation, I mean from Business among the great Folks, who were all retired into the Country, there is not you may depend upon it a Syllable of News. The Gov^r. has not a Line. I sent to Mr Colden just now to know if he had any

¹ Representatives. Last syllable omitted in the manuscript.

Letters for you, that I might send them by this opportunity by Land he sent me the inclosed, & acqd. me you had no more Letters in the Londoner, and that he had nothing in particular to write to you. His Affairs here, or disinclination, will prevent his going into the Mohawks to survey this Fall, & he is doubtfull if Cadwallader will go. Mr. Dies too, to whom he would have given a deputation, cannot go at this time, So that, its probable we shall have no Surveys this Fall. I have only three deeds of purchase, from the great number of Lycences granted. I imagine some of them have joined together, I believe I shall be obliged to trouble you soon with Accounts of the Fees due from these persons, some of them having applyed by Memorandum from you. Do you think there's any danger to be apprehended from the Indians in going upon Surveys in the Woods where Magin has purchased. You see I am plaguily straitned for want of room and am unwilling to begin another Sheet least I should trouble you with more Nonsense. I wish you'd write oftner and believe me to be as I truely am without any Reserve as you see from my Freedom in giving My thoughts Dr. Sir

your obliged Friend

& mt obed^t hble Serv^t.

GW. BANYAR

To COL. JOHNSON.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

New York 2^d. October 1754

SIR

Mr. Lewis, Mr. Colden's Deputy will deliver you this. As I told you in my last, Mr. Ab Yates is appointed to succeed Mr. Wilson¹ as Shf of Albany and Mr. Hansen is appointed Mayor.²

¹ This is evidently an error. Richard Miller was sheriff of Albany county October 1749 to October 1754, Howell and Tenney, *History of Albany County*, p. 156.

² Hans Hansen was mayor of Albany from 1754 to 1756.

Oliver DeLancey was chosen Alderman in the Room of Ald Stuyvesant, Philip Livingston in the Room of John Provoost, John Cruger in the Room of James Livingston & Evert Byvank in the Room of Alderman Benson. it is said there has not been such a Remove in the Corporation these many years. But to return to the Sherif of Albany, as the Governor proposed the removal of the present, to oblige your Assembly men, he will insist on their Interest in the Case of your Demand. Without speaking to the Council before, he plainly told them first, that you recommended the present Sherif to be continued, & that Abraham Yates Jun^r. had been also recommended. The Council were unanimous in advising the appointment of the latter, giving as a Reason Wilson's Behaviour in the affair of Vanderheyden's Daughter. Mr. Holland¹ is continued Mayor, & Mr. Roberts² Sherif.

The Surveyor goes up late I think and am afraid will not have time to do every thing, but by all means get him to do your Susquehannah Purchase which is as yet on a very indifferent footing. You must have an entire new Deed, but let it bear date as the former, tho the Certificates may be dated when given. If Magin wants Money to pay the Purchase of the Land back of the Germans, I have desired him to apply to you for the half of £104 but was mistaken in the Sum it is only half of £72 which is £36 but if he sho'd want more please to let him have it. I should be glad if it might be of any Advantage to you to supply Goods on this Occasion, Magin if he applies to you will I suppose have no objection, unless he is to pay his part in Goods. Be it as it will I can have no Objection, as the Sum to be paid is fixed. I suppose there will be some small presents as usual to be made. I have given Mr. Lewis McKellips Deed that if the Indians will agree to give as much as Mr. Colden run into Wageners Patent, he may obtain a new deed from them: But if that of Wageners is the only good Land in it, perhaps it may be better to decline

¹ Edward Holland, appointed mayor of New York in 1747.

² John Roberts, appointed sheriff of New York county in 1753.

it wholly. The Indians were to have let McKillip have 10000 acres whereas the purchase is only five, if they incline to make it up that quantity; or above the 5000, and the Land is good, I shall have no objection to allow them what you think reasonable, and in this Case I must desire you to pay the Money for nobody (of the Partners) will, or it may be are able to pay it. You see Sir I am giving you much trouble, but I hope it will be the last of this nature, and I know how extremely ready you are to oblige when in your Power. I wish it may be in mine to make equal Returns. I begin to think youl not give us the Satisfaction of seeing you here this Fall, If not, and you think you can send any Papers or Information that may be of Service in your Account with the Assembly pray send 'em. I am Sr.

your most obed^t humble Servant

GW BANYAR

7 Oct^r.

We hear Mr. Sharp (Gov^r. of Maryl^d) is already gone with abt. 200 Men to take upon him the Command of the Forces at Will's Creek & that either himself or Mr. Dinwiddie has orders to draw on England for £20000 sterl. for this Expedition. Mr. Colden tells me he has little hopes of your Susquehanah purchase, being almost persuaded it is already patented.

ADDRESSED: To Col. William Johnson
at Mount Johnson

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: October 2^d. 1754
Mr. Banyars Letter

TO GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. Df. S.

M^t. Johnson, October the 12th¹ 1754.

SIR

being prodigiously Hurried, have only time to acknowledge the receipt of your always esteemed favours. Understanding that Ury Clock² is gone to York, with a verry villanous Intent of wronging Severall of his Partners, & cutting them out of their Shares (if he can) in that Land w^h. He, & Nellus³ purchased of the Conajoharees, when the Gov^r. was at Albany. In behalf of himself and the rest, As they will not Sign a Bond he has drawn, whereby to oblige them to pay whatever Acc^t he May bring in, of extravagant charges & treats He says he has given the Indians, when He was busy to Sett them up against Tiddy Mc.Gin & Compy. which they apprehend may be double the Sum of the lawfull purchase £80. Some who Joined him in y^e. plott, as I hear have signed Said Bond, others who were not culpable, would not Sign itt, but told him they were ready, & willing to pay their proportion of the purchase, Survey & other charges attending y^e. pattent. on w^h. he declared he would try what he could do, meaning as they apprehend, that he would endeavour to outwitt & defraud them, which I hope may not Happen, as it would occasion as much uneasiness as ever between Us, & the Indians. I have been this day told he designs also to gett a Lycence to purchase a Tract of Land, which has been purchased (to his knowledge) above 20 years ago, & paid for by one Timberman, & others; part of it also, by Tiddy Mc.Ginn, in partnership with others; it is between the two Canada Creeks;

¹ In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:919, in a Representation to the King on the Proceedings of the Congress at Albany, from the Lords of Trade, dated Oct. 29, is a recommendation of the reappointment of Johnson as colonel of the Six Nations, with direction of Indian affairs.

² Also known as George Klock.

³ *Calendar of Land Papers*, p. 284.

this he does purely to ruin Some poor Familys who live on part of it, out of meer Malice. I think Him a very dangerous Man, and unworthy the least Notice being taken of what he says there. If you find him to be upon these Schemes, As I presume it is his only Errand, I beg you will give the governour a Hint of it, that He be not imposed upon. Excuse my troubling you with so much of that Fellow, whom I must say, I should be sorry if he Succeeded in his Villany. I am In much Haste, Yours Sincerely,
W J

To GOLDSBORROW BANYAR.

INDORSED: October 12th. 1754

Copy of a Letter to Banyar ab^t. Clock

HUBERT MARSHALL TO JOHN M. ROSEBOOM

A. L. S.

Fort Frederick 6th Novem^r. 1754

DEAR ROSEBOOM

I receiv'd Yours by Serjt. Mc.Kenny and send Ten Suites of Cloaths by him as for Your Drumer he told You a Lye in saying I order'd him down I subsisted him several days in order to have sent him up with the Serjeant again & since which he is gone off for my part I can't gett Drumers every day so You must make shift till I can gett one & this must be Musterd and You need not mention his being gone & shall allow You his Pay, You Can gett Perry of the Gov^{rs}. Comp^y. to do duty as Drumer & give him something for his trouble till I can provide You with One, as for the odd Man the next time You Come down it shall be settled for I spoke to Cap^t Morris Yesterday about it so dont be Uneasy as to that Point, Roseboom as I am Your friend & will always be so, Pray take Care for You have Enemy's as well as my self & I am told a Complaint will be made against You that You have not Ten Men upon Duty dont take it Amiss what I write so wou'd have You be upon Your Guard & depend upon every thing in my power to serve You in the Mean time

beg myne & Wives with M^{rs} Moores Compliments may be
Acceptable to You & Your Wife & beg my Respects may [be]
Acceptable to Col Johnson & pray keep good friends with him
this is the Advice of

Dear Roseboom

Your Sincere friend & humble Serv^t.

HUBERT MARSHALL

Pray Excuse bad witting
having a Violent pain in my
Hand that I can Scarce write
Pray let me hear from You as often
as You have Oppertunity & hope this
will find You better in health

ADDRESSED: To Capt John Mind^s. Roseboom Commander of
Fort William in the Mowhawks
Per Serj^t. Alex^r McKenny

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

New York 30th November 1754

SIR

The Governor has directed me to send you the Commissions for the Schenectady Companies which are agreeable to the List inclosed in your Letter to him: I beg you'd be so good to direct the Person you intrust to deliver them to the Officers, to secure the Fees, which are 12^s. for the Major, 8^s for each Captain, and 6^s. for each Subaltern. There are no officers appointed for the other parts of the County, nor do I think the Governor has any List sent to him of Persons proper to be Commission'd; however I have not ask'd him lately, and the last time I spoke to him on this Subject, I understood he waited for a List, and I remember in a Letter his Honour wrote you he desires you to consult with the Field Officers of the Regiment and recommend such as you think fit.

Captain Winne this day laid before the Council an Account of Disbursements made by the Commissioners of Indian Affairs in the year 1746 amounting to 349: 13: 0 $\frac{1}{4}$ and other Accounts amounting together to £29: 9: 6 outstanding, and desired a Warrant might be granted to him for the Comm^{rs}. at that time to receive from the Treasurer the £250 allowed by the Act of Assembly that year alledging that they had never received it: Upon this the Council ordered me to notify the Matter to you that if you have any Objections you may make them against issuing the Warrant, not knowing but that you had the direction of Indian Affairs part of the year 1746 and may consequently have a demand out of the same Sum, in which Case they conceive you to be equally intitled with those who acted in the former part of the year. I am to desire your Answer, until when, the Council have defer'd the proceeding further. You see in the Votes what the assembly allowed for the Ononada Journey, but to the Surprize of every one who considers the Justice of your demand they have not given a Shilling for the other particulars in your Account. I am Sr.

your most obed^t. humble Servant.

GW BANYAR

COL. JOHNSON.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Novbr. 30th. 1754
Golds Borrow Banyars
letter.

Major Jacobus Vanslyke's Commissⁿ. Dated Novbr. 2^d. 1754

Nicholaus Grote Captⁿ. 1st. Comp^y.

Garret Lansing Cap^t. 2^d. D^o.

Joh^s. A. Bratt Cap^t. 3^d. D^o.

Alexander Lansing Cap^t. 4th. D^o.

Hendk^s. Wempel, 1st. Lieut. of the 3^d. Company D^o. Date

Petrus Vandreisen 2^d. D^o. of D^o.

John Glen Ensign of the 3^d. Cop^y.

Alexander Veder 1st. Lieu^t. of the fourth Company

Andreas Trueax 2^d. Lieu^t. of D^o.

Isack Glen Ensign of D^o.

Johannis Vedder 1st. Lieu^t. of the 1st Company D^o. Date

Adam Vroman 2^d. Lieu^t. of ye. 1st. Co.

Isack J. Trueax Ensign of D^o.

Harmanus Bratt 1st. Lieu^t. of the 2^d. Company

Ryneer Mynerdson 2^d. Lieu^t of the 2^d. Company

Harmanus Jacob^s. Vanslyke Ensign of D^o. Cop^y. D^o. Date all
of them¹

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY

A. L. S.

SIR,

Boston Dec^r. 9th 1754

I send this with a letter to you from M^r pownall by Express that I may be sure of their being safely deliver'd: M^r Pownall having communicated to me the contents of his letter, acquainting you with the sentim^{ts}. of His Majesty's Ministers at home with respect to their supporting the Indians of the Six Nations in the possession of their Lands, and redressing their Grievances, those of the Mohawk Castles in particular, w^{ch}. is also confirm'd by the letters, w^{ch}. I have had the honour to receive from them this day, I need not repeat those assurances to you in my letter, but shall referr you to his letter for them: and shall go on to desire you to let the Indians know, that I will espouse their Interest in the warmest manner both here, and with the King's Ministers from whom I doubt not to obtain for them not only Justice with respect to their Lands, but all the marks, w^{ch}. they can reasonably desire of his Maj^{ty}s. favour and Cordial attention to their Interests, in return for their fidelity to him, and dependence upon the Crown of Great Britain for protection; and I hope the ancient alliance between them & the English their first, and Constant Friends, will be still maintain'd notwithstanding any Neglect, or ill usage they may have received from any particular set of men, or Colony; and that I have an equal resentm^t and Indignation at

¹ An A. L. S. of Johnson to Richard Peters, of December 9, 1754, was sold at Anderson's Galleries, February 1, 1905.

whatever wrongs they may have suffer'd, to that, which they have themselves.

Be pleased in a particular manner, Sir, to let my Old Friend Hendrick know y^t I have read over his Speech to the Commissioners of the Congress at Albany with great attention, and much like the spirit, he hath expressed in it, and that I retain the same good Opinion I at first conciev'd of him, when I saw him at Boston, and met him at Albany afterwards upon an Interview with the Indians of the Six Nations; and assure him that I will let the King's Ministers know how good a friend I look upon him to be to the English, of how much Importance his friendship is to them, and the great regard and Esteem, I have for him as well as the Dependance I have upon him for his future attachm^t to the English Interest, w^{ch}. I doubt not he will promote to the utmost of his power not only in his own, but the other Castles of Indians: and I must beg, Sir, that you will favour me with an answer by the return of the Express together with an acc^t of your Sentim^{ts} upon the present Disposition of the Indians, and what Measures, you <would> advise to be taken for retaining such of <them> as have deserted our Interest, and gone over to the French, preventing those who are wavering, from going over to it, and establishing those, who stand yet firm, in a closer attachm^t, if possible, to us.

I am perswaded, his Maj^y hath not a Subject, who knows so well how to gain the hearts of the Indians, and an Absolute Influence over them, as your self, and who hath exerted his distinguish'd abilities for promoting his Maj^{ys} service, and the English Interest among them so much; and if you will be pleas'd to let me know in what particular manner you think you can be most Instrumental in that service, I will represent, and recommend it to L^d Halifax¹ in particular and Sir Thomas Robinson² with the same Cordial Zeal, w^{ch}. I urged the Merit of your past Services to the Board of Trade, Secretary at Warr and Paymaster

¹ George Dunk Montagu, third Earl of Halifax.

² Secretary of State and leader of the house of commons.

General abt five years ago, when the Consideration of your pay as Colonel of the Indian Regim^t. came before them, & recommended you to his Majy's further favour and I doubt not but L^d. Halifax in particular will pay a just regard to your Services at this Critical Conjunction.

I am with great Truth and Esteem, Sir,

Your most Humble Serv^t

W SHIRLEY

Be pleas'd to excuse the
hurry and inaccuracy with
w^{ch}. this wrote, among a Crowd of people.

COLONEL JOHNSON.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Decbr y^e 9th. 1754
Gov^r Shirley's letter
⌘ Express.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

11 Dec^r. 1754

SIR

I have just time to lay hold of the Opportunity by the Express you sent, to say a few words to you: The doctor tells me you wonder I write nothing about your patent the truth is Mr. Colden told me he thought it best to defer making a Return till Mr. Lewis his deputy returned from the Mohawks; He is now returned but I dare say can give him no further Information in the Matter. I shall not fail to press him for your Survey that I may go on with the Certificate and Patent, as to the Fees I wrote you at large in a Letter I sent when the doctor was with you I wrote two others but had no Answer to either of them. Your Letter about Klock I received, and can only say that I will endeavour to get an Account of the charges of the Patent he pays here, and send you, the Expense he has been put to in the purchase & Surveying it will not be in my Power to send you any Account of:

When I was at Albany Klock applyed for a Lyc¹ to purchase the Land you mention, but there not being a number of the Council I told him he must wait till they came to New York. He has since brought down a Petⁿ. for Lycense to purchase about 20000 a² to the Westward of Magin between the two Canada Creeks which now lyes before the Gov. and cannot be presented till the Method of proceeding is fixed in Relation to New Purchases. Magin, who is the only person that claims, which too is of pretty old standing, knows of it, and Klock has agreed not to interfere with the 12000 a² that Magin says he purchased; with those that are taking up Land there, he cannot interfere, as they are before hand with him.

There is certainly a vacancy between Scotts Patent and that which the Gov^r. is concerned in. Scott's Line was to run a certain distance, and they fixed & supposed the Bounds to be 15 chains further, and at this supposed Boundary the Gov^rs. Patent begins. So that the mistake is the vacancy. The People who purchased Scotts Land purchased what Scott was intitled to, w^{ch}. they have, and can have no more on a Scrutiny. It is 200 acres the vacancy contains, and I for my part am very indifferent who has it, only this I would observe, that 'twill cost the People the value of the Land to patent it, and if you have a mind we should include it in our Patent, the People shall have the Refusal of it with both our Consents, Or they may take out a Grant for it themselves if they please: I should be glad to know your Sentiments on the Matter that we may proceed, for at present it puts a stop to our Patent.

I should be glad to know whether the Survey of your Land includes the Creek as far as you are bound by it. In the upper part I see it crosses the Creek & runs on the West side about a mile: As to this last I shall make no Objection if Mr. Colden will return it, But I cannot say so much, if you include the Creek all the way, as I understood from yourself was your Intention.

¹ License.

² Acres.

If Mr. Lewis had done Magin's Survey I should then have wrote with certainty, and that he has not done it appears to me very unaccountable. his Excuse is trifling, and he has shewed not the least Regard to the Parties interested, tho a very great one to his own Convenience. I think this is the fourth time an attempt has been made to survey this Land, & as the Germans now are getting their Patent its possible it may not be surveyed at all for Magin.

I have nothing further to add but that I am with great sincerity

Sir

your most obliged & faithful hble Servant.

GW BANYAR

COL. JOHNSON.

ADDRESSED: To The Hon^{ble} William Johnson Esq^r.
at Mount Johnson

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Decbr. 11th. 1754
Golds borrow Banyars letter.

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

Df.

Mount Johnson Decembr. 17, 1754

May it please Your Excellency:

After my most hearty congratulations on Your Excellencys reestablishment,¹ I am to acknowledge the Honour of Yours of the 9th. Ins^t. by the Express inclosing one from Mr. Pownal. It gives me no small pleasure to find by both, that there is a probability of his Majestys Ministers takeing into their consideration the present Shattered State of y^e Six Nations, & their Allies. As a further neglect of them, I am Sensible would be attended with very bad consequences, If not with the entire loss of them, and

¹ William Shirley was governor of Massachusetts from 1741 to 49, 1753–56.

with them every other Indian in the Country. I will not take upon me to say what may be the Consequences of such an Event, the Effects however I doubt, might be fatal to the British Interest upon this Continent.

Your Excellencys desire I would give my Sentiments on y^e present disposition of the Indians, as well as the measures proper to be taken for reclaiming those gone retaining, and more firmly attaching those left to us, Should be most chearfully complied with, or any thing else in my power but as that is a verry difficult task at present, and would lay me under a necessity of reviseing the conduct of the past, and present Management of them, which would make it prolix for your Excellencys perusal. I must beg leave only to observe; That the late (to witt, att the Commencement of y^e last war) and present untoward, and fluctuating disposition of the Six Nations, and their Allies (now verry considerable) is in a great measure owing to the contempt they have for those, who are entrusted with y^e care of them, A set of People, (as y^e Ind^{as}. express it) better Qualified for, & more concerned in buying & selling than in adviseing, or consulting them, in what may regard The Honour of the Crown, the Interest of the Province or the well being of them, who, I am certain might be made a verry usefull Body of men, & the only Barrier against our troublesome Neighbours the French, who observe a different Conduct much to their advantage, and our detriment, as we have had woefull experience of last war. They never employ a trader or handler to Negotiate any Matter with the Indians, but a Kings officer in whatever capacity, Who is generally attended by a Retinue of Soldiers according to his Rank to denote his Consequence, if he is but a Lieu^t or Ensign it is Sufficient to Command respect from those People, Who, tho somewhat warlike are actuated by their fears at a small appearance of Power.

Upon the News of the first engagement at Ohio, Our friend Indians were in high spirits, but the last had a verry different Effect, of which, I have been an Eye, and ear witness to. Soon

after the Seeming friendly Interview at Albany last June & immediately on the news of Washington's defeat, above two Hundred of the Six Nations went to Canada, as did also Severall of Both Mohawk Castles, the latter are return'd, the former are not expected untill the Spring, before time I fear many of them will be prevailed on to join the French & go to Ohio, as Severall of them have done last Summer. and those who may return will be so corrupted, & poisoned that they Seduce the rest. Notwithstanding all this, I am convinced their Naturall disposition would lead them to rejoice at our prosperity. & might (were all their greiviances redressed, their requests complied with, & proper care taken of them for y^e. future) be made tractable, & active could they see any thing in our behaviour tending that way, but instead of that we are for the most part Spending our time in squabbles & Chit, Chat, while the French are indefatigable in their endeavours, and spare nothing at this Critical point of time to pervert them, which I am Sorry to See them Succeed in beyond expectation & ye more so, as it might be prevented. The Eyes of most of the western & Southern Tribes of Indians are upon the behaviour of the Six Nations (as your Excellency may see an Instance of in the Shawanos answer lately to the Twightwees) Who, doubting, and Indeed (from the present Scituation of affairs) not without reason despairing of being supported, or protected by us, act only a timid, and (wish I could say) neutral part. This I conceive to be pritty near their Modren State.

To advise what Measures to be taken for reclaiming the great Number of the Six Nations already gone to the French, & securing the few left more steadfastly to his Majestys Interest, Is task Sufficient for a better genius. However, willing to serve your Excellency and my Country, I shall humbly offer my thoughts in a few words, & are those.—being convinced, the cause of their present defection principally proceeds from the before mentioned reasons, an entire and Speedy Reformation I conceive is indispensably necessary, that done dispossessing the French at Ohio, Establishing Garrisons in ye most Commodious places in

their Countrys, redressing their greiviances with regard to Lands fraudulently obtained, & taken from them; often to my knowledge complained of to different Governours, & as yet Unnoticed or thought so by them, who are more uneasy about it than People Imagine particularly two Pattents, (the Property of the two Castles of the Mohawks) Viz^t. Kanadarusseras alias Queens Borough,¹ lying between the Mohawk & Hudsons River, containing ab^t Seven Hundred thousand Acres Yet unsettled, & undivided, & pays only £ 4 ^{per} Annum Quit Rent. The other is a Pattent w^h Phillip Livingston & others got for the Verry Castle of the Conajoharees includeing all the Indians Houses, Corn Lands &c^a Surveyed by Moon light, & never sold by them.² if those (which are the Grand Points) were imediately Settled to their Satisfaction, other Complaints, & Greiviances of less Moment; together with their Wants of Every kind could be redressed, & Supplied by whatever Person May have the Management of their affairs, if properly Supported, this I hope may be thought Sufficient at present, without enumerateing any more requisites to ground any thing yet designed upon.

The Honour Your Excellency, (distinguished for your well known Judgement in Indian affairs &c^a) is pleased to do me, by your approbation of my abilities to Serve his Majesty in that way, much exceeds my small share of merit but thus much I can modestly assert, that your Excellency's good opinion of my services to my Country, gives me the greatest Satisfaction imaginable, under the present Maltreatment and great losses I have sustained by a partial injurious treatment from the Assembly of this Province who, notwithstanding the many applications made to them by me, & backed by the former, & present, Governour for the payment of a considerable Sum of money, advanced for the Service of the Government Severall years ago by orders of Mr.

¹ Granted to Nanning Harmensen & Co., October 22, 1708, *Calendar of Council Minutes*, p. 222 and *Calendar of Land Papers*, p. 89.

² See William L. Stone, *Life and Times of Sir William Johnson*, 2:176-84.

Clinton in Council, (Who if I mistake not told me part of it was also by Your Excellencys advice, & approbation) now absolutely refuse the payment thereof, altho Severall times well attested agreeable to a Resolution of that House that no Acc^{ts}. should be allowed but those Sworn to.

As I have had the Honour of Serveing his Majesty as Collonel of a Regiment, as well as the care, & Superintendancy of the Six Nations, & their Allies Severall Years, (and are yet a Heavy Burthen on me) and lived Seventeen Years in their Neighbourhood I must acknowled I am no Stranger to their Customs & Manners. Yet for me to point out everyy particular method, and Step necessary for a Gentleman employed in that Service to know, or take, might I am apprehensive appear Something opiniated, but this much I venture to add, to what I've already Said, that Whoever his Majesty may think worthy of such an Important Trust, (ATrust in my Humble opinion of verry great consequence,) should be vested with as much power as the nature of the thing may admit of, and intirely independant of any American Assemblys Approbation for the payment of money expended in that Service, as that would certainly be the means of frustrateing his Intentions, or best endeavours, be them ever so Sanguine.

These are Sir my Sentiments, and the only effectual method I can think of reclaiming those of the Six Nations already gone, and attaching those yet remaining steadfastly to his Majestys Interest, to which my Love, loyalty, & Live are ever devoted, abstract from his favours already conferred on me.

Should his Majesty deem me worthy of that important trust, and enable me to discharge it properly. by laying aside all other business, and allowing me to choose, and employ such People as I might Judge proper under me, the remainder of my Life Should be entirely devoted to his Service.

Hendrick is gone to Philadelphia a few days ago, as soon as he returns shall acquaint him with Your Excellency's kind expressions, and favourable opinion of him, which I am Sensible will

make him verry proud, as he greatly esteems Your Excellency's friendship.

least this might not Sufficiently answer Your Excellencys expectations, being wrote in a great Hurry, I transmit herewith a Copy of some of my own remarks, (made this time past) on Indian affairs & the State of them (which I exhibitted last June to the Board of Commissioners then met there) for Your Excellencys perusal, and heartily wish they may be thought worthy your Notice. permit me now Sir, to offer my congratulations on your good Success in your late Expedition up Kinnebeck River, as well as with the Severall Tribes of Indians Inhabitting them parts, and to greet your Excellency with my warmest wishes for a long & happy chain of life, adequate to Your great, & well established Merit.

Sensible of the loss this Country in particular must feel, when Governour Shirley shall be no more

I am with all due respect & the greatest deference

Your Excellencys Most obliged Humble Servant

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Coppy of my letter to Governour
Shirley  Express

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

New York 18th December 1754

SIR

When the Doctor embarked the 16 he desired I would inclose your papers to you in his Absence which I shall do with a great deal of Pleasure, as it will afford me the Satisfaction of a regular Correspondence with you, at least on my part, in which tho you will have no great matter of Entertainment from a person, who on account of his Business has not leisure, if his Genius in the Epistolary way enabled him to be amusing, yet you may depend on having the earliest and best Intelligence of the Occurrences I

think worthy your Notice: Parker's Paper¹ has every thing material that is inserted in Gain's,² except the Names of the officers ordered to their Posts. James Pitcher Esq^r. is the Commissary of the Musters of all the Forces, is arrived at Boston and expected daily here to muster our 2 Comp^s. he writes, and then proceeds to Virginia. He will be spared that Trouble and the officers the Chagrin at the indifferent Appearance they would probably make. A General who is to command all the Forces who it is said is Col. Braddock, that lately commanded at Gibraltar, and a Deputy Quarter Master General, were to set out immediately to have every thing in Readiness for the Forces. There are about 3000 Men to be raised in America, 1000 for each of Shirleys & Pepperels Regiments, 400 to be divided between the two Irish Regiments which at present consist only of 500 each. What's to be done with the remaining 600 Men I cant tell, It does not appear yet, Suppose they be incorporated with our 4 Ind^t. Comp^s. & form'd into a Regiment, it is possible. So far upon Authority.

Mr. Pownall writes the Forces are to rendezvous here. But surely if any at all, it must be the New England Regiments only. It seems as if they were all destin'd for Virginia: But on the General's arrival he'll order them we may suppose where wanted most. A Number of them will be wanted on our Frontiers, if not to make an attempt on Niagara, where in my humble opinion we should bend our chief strength, yet to guard us from the French, who as we are open will probably attack us to divert our Force from the Ohio. A very late Letter to Captⁿ. ffarmer from his Brother who is a Captain in Ireland, says the Orders for the departure of the Forces, were countermanded. I hope amidst all their Veterans they will think a few Indians necessary, and that it is of as much Consequence to restore them to good temper and keep them so, as to send over soldiers &c from Europe. I am

¹ James Parker's *New York Gazette and Weekly Post-boy*.

² Hugh Gain's *New York Mercury*.

in hopes the General will have directions for this End the Letters being Silent. The Letter mentioned above to Capt. Farmer is I hear since dated the 27 Oct., which being from Ireland, and Sr. Thomas Robinson's from London being the 26th there can be no truth in the Forces being countermanded at that time.

I should be glad to know where the New England People intend their Settlement, if my Information is right it must be considerably to the Southward of what we allow to be Penn's North Line, & consequently cannot affect the Land you proposed to purchase. It is I am well assured excellent Land, for which Reason I imagine Mr. Penn will not suffer 'em to settle without paying him for the Land. Somebody was saying the French King intended shortly to publish a Manifesto asserting his Right to the Lands on the Ohio. I never saw the Treaty of Aix La Chapelle, you have it I think, I should be glad you'd peruse it, and let me know if any thing is stipulated as to the different Claims in America, and what? Or whether things are left on the same footing as they were by the Treaty of Utrecht. I am with my best Wishes Sr.

Your m^t. obed^t: hble Servant

GW BANYAR

ADDRESSED: To The Hon^{ble} William Johnson Esq
at Mount Johnson

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Decb^r. 18, 1754

Golds Borrow Banyars letter

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

New York 24 December 1754

SIR

My last with the Post covered the Votes and News-Paper, this does the latter. Sunday Mr. Pitcher arrived in Company with Cap^t. King appointed for the Governors Company. By these Gentlemen we have a certain Account of Cap^t. Clarke's

having sold his Company for £1400 Sterl to ¹ a Gentleman now in Halifax. The General is Col. Braddock whom I mentioned in my last, who was gone to Ireland before these Gentlemen came from London. Mr. Pitcher says (I hear) that Pepperel's ² Regiment is to be posted in this province, Shirley's in Massachusetts and the two Irish in Virginia, at least until the General orders otherwise. He gives the Engineer, Mr. Montresore ³  paper designed this way a great character and says there are a parcel of fine Fellows coming out for Officers. I wish them and the Men they are to command were already on the Spott, that we might be able to look Mon seur in the Face. I sent Ogilvie the intelligence of last Week which if they hadn't got it earlier will put them all into High Spirits.

I imagine these preparations if made a proper use of will give us a favourable Opportunity to regain our Indians and attach them closer to us than ever, however I rather hope than expect to see the proper Measures taken to this End, unless the direction is placed in other Hands by Orders from home.

Last Night I received a Letter from Mr. Ogilvie in which he informed me that an Express passed some time before With Letters on the publick Service for you, so I imagine the Intelligence I give you will be only a Repetition of what you knew before. If any thing further be wrote to you which you may

¹ Name omitted in the manuscript.

² Sir William Pepperrell was born at Kittery Point, Me., in 1696 and died at Kittery in 1759. He was bred to trade, which he followed with success. In 1726 he represented Kittery in the Massachusetts legislature, and the following year became a member of the council. Appointed a captain at the age of twenty-one, he attained to the command of the Maine militia; and in 1745 led the New England forces in the expedition to Cape Breton, to the success of which his skill and energy notably contributed. A baronetcy was conferred upon him in recognition of this service; and a short time before his death he was made a lieutenant general. Sir William lived in a style of much magnificence on his immense estate.

³ James Montresor; later, colonel and chief engineer in America. See *Collections of the New York Historical Society*, 1881, for portrait and journals.

think proper to communicate I shall be glad to hear it: Mr. Shirley I hear is closely confin'd to his Politicks, so that some extraordinary affair is thought to be in agitation. He has stop'd the Vessells bound to Halifax, and ordered the number of Slaves in Boston to be taken: His Son is appointed a Captain and expected this way to raise a Company in Pensilvania. Klock has got the Patent by which all the Partners will find themselves secured, it being granted to 15 in trust for the other 20 whose Names are mentioned in it. Besides the charges paid here now which amount to 419 5 6 for the Gov^r. Secretary Att^y Gen^l & Surveyor Gen. & Auditor General, there is to be accounted for among the Partners thirty five pounds paid for the Survey, two hundred dollars for the purchase besides what private presents there may be; He will also have a demand, pretty considerable too I Imagine for his frequent Journeys to this place & Albany and his Expenses during those times. The Expense of chain Bearers I suppose are well known. If any dispute arises among them it will be advisable to refer it to Arbitration, and they should draw Lotts immediately and the 15 patentees must all join in the Conveyances to the rest, the latter having no absolute Title till then. I dont know how they will get them well drawn up there, but care ought to be taken that they be well drawn. Klock has taken up all the Money and must pay interest for it till it is discharged, and besides giving Bond, from him and Nellis, to Mr. Earnest, they leave the patent in his Hands as a further Security

I am Sr.

your m^t. obed^t. humble Servant

GW BANYAR

COL. JOHNSON

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Decb^r. the 24th. 1754

A Letter from Golds Borrow

Banyar

By Ury Klock

TO GOLDSBROW BANYAR

*A. Df. S.**Decbr the 27th 1754*

SIR

Yours of the 30th. Ult^o. and the 11th. & 18th. Inst. with much pleasure came Safe to Hand, wth. Commissions for the Schenectady officers, from whom I shall order the Lieu^t. Coll^o. to receive the Fees, e're He delivers them. The Vacancys In the Companys of Albany, and thereabouts I wrote his Honour Some time ago, that I would order the Field Officers best Acquainted there, to make me a Return of, with a List also of Such Persons as they might Judge best qualified to fill them. I have not yet been able to get it, when I do shall transmit it to him without any alteration, as I am, & ever have been quite indifferent who they are, provided they can discharge their Duty. Yet I am Sorry to find (Notwithstanding all this & what I have said to him at York, & Albany on that Head, & the Instances I have given him of my haveing nothing in view by it but the good of the Service), that His Honour should still act so reservedly with me as he does. now he writes me that some Germans liveing on y^e. Mohawk River between the two Creeks, have given him a List of officers which he seems to approve of desiring they may be a distinct Company, when at y^e. Same time they are under y^e. Command of their own People, who are their Officers & Compleat. this without my Cognizance, or indeed approbation (as Coll^o. of the Regiment) I must say I take hard. However, I shall say nothing more about it. let him put in or out who he pleases. You will be kind enough to let the Council know I am highly oblidge to them for the Notice they were pleased to give me of Captⁿ. Winnes demand in behalf of the Commissioners of Indian affairs, and tell them I shall make no objections to the payment thereof, on Acc^t. of any Service I may have done y^e. govern^t. that way & at that time.

I am realy at a loss to know what reason my Patten^t has been

delayed So long for it being above a year Since the Survey was made & ten Months since I returned it to M^r. Colden, Who then drew another Draft of it, & delivered it me when at York, & assured me he would have it dispatched as soon as possible. I hope it may meet with no further delay, as that would give those who purchased Lands adjacent long after (& as I understand are now getting Pattents out for them) an advantage over me, wh^h. would be very Unequitable. As to the Creek you mention, I cannot see what uneasiness it need give you, as I have assured you, and still confirm it by this that if your Lott adjoins the Creek, I will readily release you half the Creek as far as your Lott runs along it. which I would not do to any of the others, I assure you, having fairly bought it, paid for it verry dear, & traversed it with Hendrick & three other Cheifs of that Castle whose property it was.

The Vacancy between Scott, & Glen, or the present Gover^r. Pattents, was discovered by Lewis & myself in presence of three of the Mohawks, who were imediately applied to by one of the Parties who purchased Scotts Land then one of Our Chain bearers. on the Indians not complying with his proposals, He applied to me begging I would assist him or Join him in said Land, wh^h. I would not promise him, Some time after the Indians offered to sell it to me, wh^h. I refused, not knowing whether it was vacant, or not. As You Seem convinced it is not pattented, and incline to include it in yours, I will as Soon as the Indians return from Hunting speak to them ab^t. it. This I can Assure You that what I saw of it is exceeding good land and highly prized by the Indians on that Acc^{tt}. . however if you will let me know by the next Post w^t. You would have done in it, and w^t. you would give for it, I shall try my utmost to Serve You therein. I am convinced it will in a verry little time if not imediately, Sell verry well.

The Lands wh^h. Lydius has fraudulently purchased of the Six Nations for the Connecticut People, lyes far to the Southward of Pens Northern line as you observe. Gov^r. Morris writes me

they Intend to Settle a large Body of Connecticut People¹ there in y^e. Spring, but he intimates as Much, as that they will meet wth. great opposition. He has sent for Hendrick lately to come to Philadelphia in a verry pressing Manner, which invitation he accepted of & is gone with Six or Seven more of that Castle. I have heard a Connecticut Man lately Say they had Sent Home for a Pattent of Said Lands in Consequence of said Clandestine Deed.

I should be glad to See that Manifesto of the French King by w^h. he asserts his right to the Ohio Lands. I have examined the Treaty of Aix La Chappelle, And cannot find any thing Stipulated therein as to the different Claims in America, more than what was Settled at the Treaty of Utrecht Ann^o. 1713. w^h. together with the Severall other Treaties inserted in the inclosed Article Served as a Basis to the general peace concluded at Aix La Chapelle the 18th of Octobr. N. S. 1748. as you will See by Said Article.

As I cannot Sufficiently express or acknowledge the gratefull Sense I have of your kind Services & present generous tender of Continuance, Shall Studiously endeavour not only to merit but return them at all opertunity.

In the meantime believe me with Sincerity,

Y^r. real Welwisher & Humble Servant

W. J.

be so good to give my
Compliments to M^{rs}.
Shuckburgh, & Miss ———

I should be verry glad You
would Send me the last
Acts by the next Post.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Decbr. 27th 1754
Coppoy of a Letter to
Golds Borrow Banyar Esq^r.
⌘ Post

¹ Beginning of Wyoming settlement.

TO GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. Df. S.

SIR

Jan^{ry}. the 21st. 1755

Yours ☞ post came so late to hand that I have only time to acknowledge the receipt of it and return you my Hearty thanks for your kind advice, and directions to Mr. Colden Concerning the Return, as well as Your promise of forwarding it with all dispatch. I heartily wish the Assembly may answer the expectations of their Constituents who greatly murmur at their defenceless Scituation in this part of the Country particularly Where I much fear the French will give us a Blow verry Soon, in order to divide our Forces & divert them from Ohio, where I fear they will be too powerfull for Us. You will See by an Extract of Stoddert's letter to me, w^h. I send the Gov^r., that the French Stick at Nothing to pervert the Six Nations, and draw their Affections from Us, which I am Sorry to Say they have pritty near accomplished while We are only tame Spectators, never endeavouring in the least to prevent it. If I could possibly spare time & the Snow continue so long I should be glad to be down this ensueing Session to See how things may go but I much doubt of it. Be so good to Send me the Militia Act by the next Post. As Soon as the Indians return from Hunting (w^h. will be shortly) I shall talk to them ab^t. that Vacancy & See what can be done it. In the meantime I remain, Sr. Y^r. Most Humble Serv^t.

W. J.

You say you Sent me 2 reports of y^e. Councils. I rec^d. but one.

My Compliments to good M^{rs}. Shuckburgh & Miss ———

pray let me know w^t. is done ab^t. the Certificate I sent down.

whether there is a Warrant Issued thereon or not.

GOLDS BORROW BANYAR Esq^r.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON:

Jan^{ry}. the 21st. 1755

Coppy of a letter to

Golds Borrow Banyar

Esq^r.

☞ Second Post.

JOHN WALDRON'S LIST OF CANNON AND STORES

A List of the Cannon with other Ordnance Stores in and round
the City of New York.

A. D. S.

New York 27th. January 1755

2 Cannon of Brass of pounders.....	18 ¹
6 Ditto....D°	12
15 Ditto Iron New.....	32
8 Ditto....D°	18
21 Ditto....Ditto	12
29 Ditto....Ditto	9
39 Ditto....Old	32
22 D°.....D°	12
14 D°.....D°	9
10 D°.....D°	6

166 of Sundry bore

15 Carriages New — for pounders.....	32
18 D°....D° <i>Six I shall want if them at Albany be bad</i> ²	18
21 D°....D°	12
28 D°....D°	9
2 D°....D° <i>these 2 I will want if them be bad at Albany</i>	6
24 D°....Old	32
7 D°....D°	12

115 New and old

3066 Cannon ball for pounders.....	32
583 D°	24
648 D° <i>I shall want these all I believe</i>	18

¹ These figures indicate pounders.² Words in *italics* are inserted in Johnson's handwriting, and the item has been checked at the left in the manuscript.

1140 D ^o	12
1003 D ^o	9
2000 D ^o 200 I will want.....	6
600 D ^o	3
1500 Granadoz Shells....one Hundred to take along	
1000 Weight of Musquet Ball....will want all	
1500 Cartridges of Sundry Sizes...want all	
20 Quire of Cartridge paper...all Wanted	
5 Copper powder Measures...2 powder measures for 6 & 18 <i>p^{drs}.</i>	
29 Copper ladles Suitable for the Cannon, 10 ladles for D ^o	
56 Cartridge Boxes 10 of them wanted	
1 teen powder filler...I want it	
7 lanthorns	
55 priming horns with Wires...I want ten of them	
36 linstocks	
1 Pair of Brass weights and Scales	
1 Pair of Callebar Compas... I want them	
56 Shot boxes...12 of them wanting	
6 Shovels and Spades	
2 Axes	
2 hatchets	
2 hammers	
9 formers ¹	
11 Wad hooks...Six of them wanting	
52 Spunges with Rammers Suitable for the Cannon...10 <i>Want^g.</i>	
24 Spare Spunge & Ramers heads	
12 Spear Spunge Staues	
20 New Trucks	
56 Aprons of Lead...13 Wanting	
47 Crows of Iron...6 good ones wanting	
2 Pair of Gunslings...2 pair wanting	

¹ Firmers?

- 2 Jenns with Blocks and 1 fall... *one of them*
- 8 Water Tubbs with pailles
- 125 pounds of Match
- 1000 Wads for 6th feild peices
- 5 Pair of handscruces... *2 pair large*
- 3 bouge Barrils... *2 of them*
- 3 Serchers
- 2 Scrapers... *both wanting*
- 2 Wheel Barrows
- 2 baskets for Carrying Wads
- 120 Tomkins
- 130 handspikes
- 1 Sling Cart for Transporting the Cannon
- 1 Pr of Trucks for D^o with bolts and other old Iron which came out of the Old Carriages broken up.

JOHN WALDRON.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: N York May the 1st. 1755
A List of the Cannon and
Ordnance Stores at New York

TO VOLCKERT P. DOUW¹

WILLIAM SHIRLEY TO JAMES DE LANCEY

Copy by Johnson

Boston New England Feby. 24th 1755

<SIR:>

It would be needless for me to observe to you, how his Majesty's Colonies upon this Continent are Surrounded wth. ye. encroachments of the French, they have long Since marked out for themselves a large Empire upon the back of it, extending from Cape Breton, to the Gulf of Mexico, and Comprehending the Country between the Apalachian Mountains, and Pacific Ocean, with the numerous powerfull Tribes of Indians inhabitting it, and they are now finishing the extreme parts by a communication

¹ Letter of February 20, 1755. See Appendix.

between Louisbourg and Quebec across the Isthmus of Nova Scotia, and Bay of Fonda, at the one End, and a Junction of Canada with the Mississippi by a Line of Forts upon the great Lakes & Rivers at the other.

It is fallen to the Lott of the most Eastern Colonies to be Hemmed in by that part of their encroachments, w^h. begin in Nova Scotia and End at Crown Point, amon w^h. the Fort of Beau Sejour upon y^e. Isthmus of the Peninsula, that on St. Johns River, and Fort St. Frederick near Crown Point are the Principall.

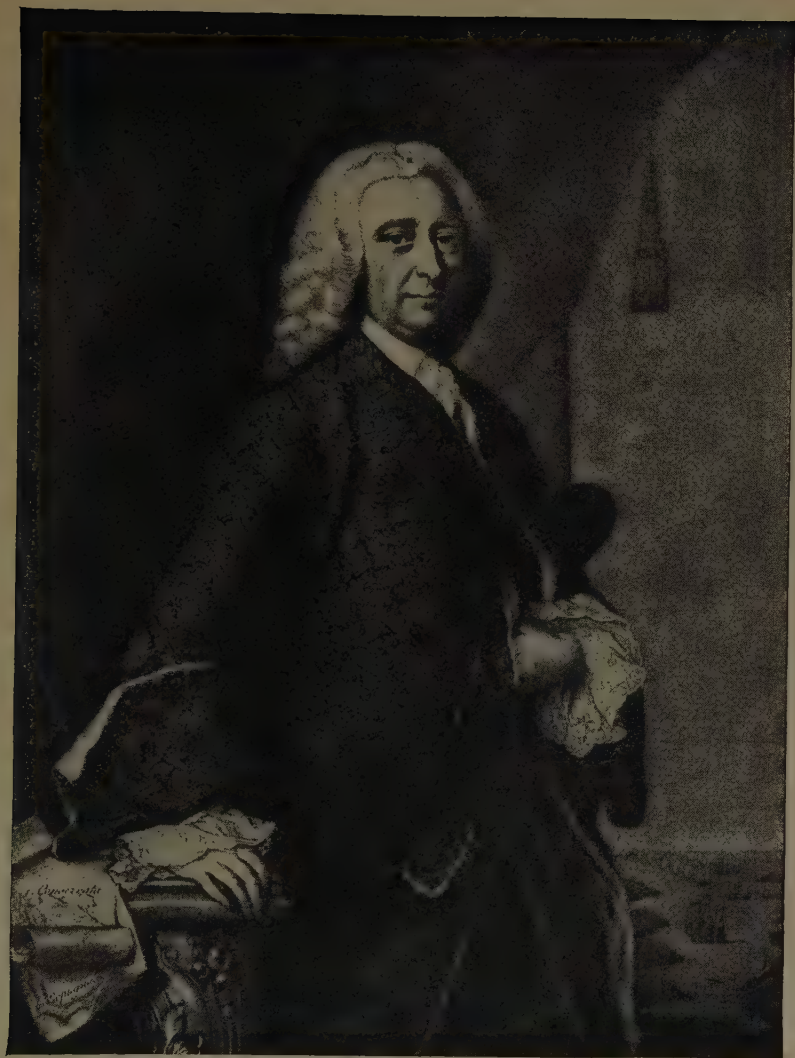
His Majesty out of his Paternal Care for the Welfare, and security of his good Subjects of these Colonies, in September 1753 Signified his Royal pleasure, by the R^t. Hon^{ble}. Earl of Holdernesse's Letter dated the 21st. of that Month to his Governours there, that they should with the armed Force of the Militia under their respective Commands (if need be) remove all encroachments upon his Territories within the limits of their Severall Governments, and use their best endeavours for promoteing a general Union among them for their Common defence against an Invader.

In July last by a letter from the R^t. Hon^{ble}. Sr. Thomas Robinson dated the 5th. of that Month, His Majesty Signified his Orders to me & Coll^o. Lawrence,¹ Lieu^t. Gov^r., & Comm^dr. in Cheif of Nova Scotia, that we should concert measures for attacking the French Forts in that Province and in Decemb^r. last I had the Honour to receive another letter from St. Tho^s Robinson dated the 26th of October, wherein he acquainted me that his Majesty on takeing the State of his Colonies in North America into his Royal consideration, was graciously pleased, besides ordering two Regiments of Foot from Ireland under the Command of Sr. Peter Halket,² and Coll^o. Dunbar³ to be sent to Virginia, to order Me, and St. W^m. Pepperell, to raise each of

¹ Charles Lawrence.

² Colonel of the 44th regiment.

³ Colonel Thomas Dunbar, of the 48th regiment.



Whitely

us a Regiment of Foot consisting of 1000 Men under our respective Commands for y^e. defence of his Colonies here. In obedience to the first mentioned Orders, Coll^o Lawrence and I have concerted measures for dislodging the French from their Forts in Nova Scotia, and driving them out of that Province, and among other preparations for that purpose, I am now raising a reinforcement of 2000 Men for his Majestys Regular Troops there, to be embarked in time, to be landed in the Bay of Funda by the first week in April, w^h. I have reason to think, I can depend upon accomplishing.

In consequence of the latter I have made a great progress in raising my Regiment, and believe there is no great doubt of its being compleated by the latter End of March.

Mr. Dinwidde, Gov^r. of Virginia, in his letter to me, dated Jan^y. <14th, acquaints> me that his government had great dependance upon a strong Diversion's <being made> by Sr. W^m. Pepperell's & my Regiments this Summer, at some part of Canada <in favour> of the Attempts of the Western Colonies to repel the French upon the Ohio, and <such a> Diversion of the French Forces must likewise greatly facilitate the Enterprise <for> driving the French from their incroachments in Nova Scotia; it is most evident <that> at the same time the expedition in Nova Scotia, and the Schemes w^h. principally employ the attention of the French, and a great part of their Forces upon the <Ohio> afford a most favourable opportunity for the four Colonies of New England, and <those> of New York, and New Jerseys with their united Strength to Erect such a Fort near <Crown> Point, as may command the French Fort there, and curb the City of Montreal, <itself.>

These were the Motives w^h induced me to make the proposal <of> such an Attempt to the Assembly within my own Government, w^h. is particularly set <forth> in my speech to them upon this occasion a Coppy of w^h. together, with a Coppy of the Resolves of the Assembly consequent upon it I inclose to your Honour.

In these Resolves Sir You will find what Number of Troops this Government thinks necessary to be raised in the whole for the Execution of this Attempt wth <the> Quotas they propose, for the consideration of the Severall Colonies concerned, & I <hope> it will not be thought, they have underrated their own Quota, when it is considered that out of the 2200 Men, w^h. are raising for S^r. W^m. Pepperrels & my Regiment, & 2000 now raising for the Expedition to Nova Scotia, upwards of 3000 of them will be taken out of this Province, w^h. with the 1200 proposed to be raised in it for Crown Point will amount to considerably More than one Eight part of its fighting Men, and that they were at an heavy charge last year in carrying on an Expedition upon the River Kinnebeck, and erecting Fort Hallifax there, w^h. as it is a great advance towards securing the principal pass into the heart of Canada over against their Metropolis of Quebec, and thorough w^h. River the French have the shortest passage into the Atlantick Ocean of any River in North America, must be deemed an advantage to all the Eastern Colonies in general.

Your Honour Will observe that the Assembly hath desired me to appoint an officer for the Cheif Command of the proposed Expedition, it is essential to y^e. Service that such an One should be appointed, and as it seemed necessary that He should be proposed at the beginning, and this government is the first Mover in this Expedition (as it was likewise in that ag^t. Cape Breton of w^h. also I appointed the Commander in Cheif) it is hoped the other Colonies will have no objection to it. The Gentleman whom I shall nominate for that Command, will, I am persuaded shew Your Honour that the only Motive which will sway me in this appointment, is a Strict regard to his Majestys Service, and the Interest of the Common Cause, without the least partiality to any one of the governments concerned.

The Gentleman I have thought of on this important Occasion is Collonel William Johnson of Mount Johnson in the Mohawk Country whose distinguished Character for the great Influence He hath for Severall Years maintained over the Indians of the Six

Nations, is the circumstance, wh. determines me in my Choice, preferably to any Gentleman in my own Govern^{mt} tho there are not wanting there Officers of Rank, & Experience, out of Whom I could have Nominated one.

Your Honour is sensible that one of the Principall things we have in View, in this Expedition, is to retain such of those <Castles, as> are not yet gone over to the French, in the English Interest, and to reclaim <those wh> are, and it would be of Unspeakable advantage to Us at this Conjuncture, if we could <engage any> of them in the proposed Service. Collonel Johnson raised & Commanded a <Regime>nt of Indians in the late intended Expedition against Canada & with regard <to his> power to engage them now, No Gentleman can Stand in Competition wh. him, <besid>es his Military qualifications for this particular Service, & knowledge of <the> Country & place against wh. this Expedition is destined, are verry <con>spicuous.

The Fort intended to be built in this Expedition <is pr>oposed to be so Scituated, as to command Fort St. Frederick at Crown Point, <to be> made defensible agst. the Strength wh. the French can suddenly bring agst. it from Montreal, to be erected by the Army employed, and as to y^e. Support garri-sonning, and Command of it, that must depend upon his Majestys pleasure wh. will be soon known concerning it.

It must be fresh in Y^r. Honours memory, that the reduction of the French Fort at Crown Point was looked upon as a necessary Step in the late intended Expedition, agst. Canada And how farr & advanced the preparations of the Colonies concerned in that Scheme were till I know not by what fatall Disunion of our Councils a most unhappy Stop was put to it.

One remarkable Circumstance occurs to me upon this Occasion. When the late S^r. Peter Warren and myself were endeavouring to engage one Monsieur Vaudrerie, then at Boston a verry intelligent Frenchman as a Pilot to our Forces up the River St. Lawrence in the aforesaid late expedition, He smiled & told Us, He should not be convinced that the English did in good earnest

design an Expedition agst. Canada from these Colonies, Untill He should Hear that Fort S^t Frederick was attacked.

But I am perswaded nothing more need be urged to Y^r. Honour concerning the great importance of the proposed Expedition, < > that besides securing our Selves against future depredations of the French <from> their Fort at Crown Point in a time of War, We shall Wipe of the repro[ach] of the Colonies for Suffering that dangerous Encroachment upon his Majes<ty's> Territories to be at first erected, I should have mentioned to Your Honour the two Houses of the Assembly in this Province have bound themselves to A<ct?> by Secrecy both with respect to the Expedition now preparing agst. the G< > Encroachments in Nova Scotia, and that proposed agst. those at Crown Point, <which> I thought proper to observe that Y^r. Honour may use Y^r. discretion in y^t. <point> with regard to the Assembly within Y^r. own Government. the Same <Union of> Sentiments, and like Spirit, with w^h. the Colonies proposed to join in the present < > acted in y^e. late intended one agst. Canada, will I hope prevail in their Councils at this <most> Critical conjuncture, and particularly that the depredations w^h. the County of Albany < > from the french & their Indians at Crown Point, not only in time of War, but <as well?> in a time of peace, together with its present exposed State, will move y^e. Government of New York to an Hearty concurrence with the Massachusetts Bay in y^e. proposed Expedition.

Your Honour is Sensible that, in order to avail our Selves of y^e. favourable opertunity for such an Enterprize, a Speedy determination upon it, & y^e. greatest dispatch in our preparations for it is Necessary.

I have Commissionated Thomas Pownal¹ Esq^r. to wait on Y^r.

¹ Thomas Pownall first came to America from England in 1753 as secretary to Sir Danvers Osborne. In 1755 he was appointed lieutenant governor of New Jersey, never however exercising the powers of the office; was governor of Massachusetts in 1757; and in 1759 was nominated for

Honour upon this occasion & to Sollicit Y^r. Govern^t. to Join with my own, in this necessary peice of Service for the protection of his Majesties Colonies under Our Care, agst. the dangerous encroachments of the French, and hope he will Succeed in the Execution of his Commission. I am with the greatest regard, Sir
Y^r. Honours Most Humble & Most Obedient Servant

W. Shirley

To GOVERNOUR DELANCEY ¹ of New York
Copia Vera Verbatim

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: February the 24th. 1755
Governour Shirleys Letter to
Gov^r. De Lancey, concerning
the proposed Expedition
agst. Crown Point.

TO EDWARD COLLINS ²

A. L. S.

Feb^y. the 27th 1744-5.

DR. SR.—

I have made a purchase of the Bearer Mr. Lodowick Castle-mans land, at Stoneraby Con^t. of 280 acres or thereabouts for £200, and now I hear there is a Mortgage upon it for £70 w^h

the governorship of South Carolina. Later, he served in parliament. He was distinguished by his liberal attitude toward the colonies, and a remarkable acquaintance with the physical and political conditions of this continent. He was born in 1720 and died in 1805.

¹ James De Lancey, son of Stephen De Lancey, was born in New York City in 1703 and died there in 1760. He was a graduate of Cambridge University, England, and studied law in London. Returning to America, he entered public life and rose to be member of the provincial council, chief justice and lieutenant governor. He presided over the Albany congress held in 1754.

² In Burton Historical Collection, Detroit, Mich.; collected and published by C. M. Burton.

I would desire the favour of you to enquire Strictly into. I hear it is to Rob^t. Roseboom in Albany — if so you can easily know it. I doubt I cant go down soon wherefore would desire the favour of you to get a good firm Deed drawn for S^d. Land, and send it up to me p first Safe hand. You will see his Writeings, which he has along with him, and he will tell you the Names of the Lotts I have the Mill with all belonging thereto in the Bargain Also whatever Moveables he does not take along with him as you will see by the inclosed kind of a memorandum w^h. I had him to sign, and paid him in part 70 pounds. You'l please to send me p bearer the amount of that Sum w^h. he was arrested for, together with all the charges thereto belonging that I may settle with him er'e he goes. if you have any News shall be obliged to you for it I wish you would send me the last Acts of Assembly, or at least that relating to the Duty of Showds¹ and Rum w^h. was altered last Session. Y^r. kind Compliance together with all former favours will vastly oblige Sr.

y^r. Unfeigned friend & Humble Serv^t.

W^m. JOHNSON

My kind respects to M^{rs}. Collins
To EDWARD COLLINS Esq^r.
at Albany.

MOHAWKS TO JOHNSON

*Extract*²

At a Council held at Fort George in the
City of New York on Friday the twenty
Eight day of February 1755.

Present

The Honourable James De Lancey Esq ^r . Lieut. Gov ^r . &c.	
Mr. Kennedy	Mr. Chambers
Mr. Holland	
Col. Johnson	Mr. Smith

¹ Strouds.

² Council Minutes, 23:267-68.

Col. Johnson presented to his Honour a String of Wampum with a Message from the Mohawk and Connajohary Indians in these words:

Message from the Mohawk Indians desiring their Castles may be inclosed.

Mount Johnson February the 7th. 1755.

At a Meeting of the Mohawks and Connajohary <Indians,> Lawrence a Mohawk and their first Warrior stood up and spoke in behalf of both Castles as Follows.

Brother Warraghiyagey.

When the News of your intention of going to New York reached our Ears, both Men and Women met together in Council, and then concluded to embrace the favourable Opportunity of sending a Message by you to our Brother Goragh, which we now earnestly entreat you to deliver to him, with these Strings of Wampum.

Brother Goragh

When we had the Pleasure of seeing you last Summer at Albany, the Air seemed to us pleasant, and the Sky pretty serene and clear, but to our great Concern we now observe thick and heavy Clouds arising on all sides, and driving this way, which seem to portend a Storm, should it blow hard we are very apprehensive of danger, having no Shelter. To you therefore Brother (in whose Power it is to draw on, or disperse those dark Clouds) we make known our Fears, not doubting but you (out of a Brotherly Affection) will either remove them, and ease the Minds of our old and young People, or cover us from the impending Storm.

Four Strings of black Wampum.

On due Consideration whereof, the Council being of Opinion, that it was absolutely necessary to order the two Castles of the said Indians to be stockadoed round, or other Works made there for their defence, and the Security of their old Men, Women and Children, and that this Measure would have a much better Effect

Council advise it should be done immediately.

on them, than all the Arguments that might be used to dissuade them from going to Canada in the Spring, on the French Governor's Invitation; and being also of Opinion that his Honour might apply as much Money as would be requisite for this service out of the Fund of Contingences, therefore advised his Honour to return the String of Wampum, with a Message to those Indians, signifying that he will forthwith give Orders to inclose their Castles at the Mohawks and Connajohary, and that as he has complied with their request, he expects neither they or any of the other Nations will go to Canada.

Col. Johnson desired to undertake the direction of the Works.

Col. Johnson was then desired to view the Ground and make Plans, and Estimates of the Expence, of the Works the Indians desire to be erected among them, and to undertake the Direction of those works.

THE PROPRIETORS AND SIX NATIONS

*Extract*¹

At a Council held at Fort George in the City of New York on Wednesday the 12th Day of March 1755.

Present

The Hon^{ble} James De Lancey Esq^r. Lieu^t. Gov^r. &^{ca}

Mr. Alexander

Col^o. Johnson

Mr. Kennedy

Mr. Chambers

Mr. Holland

Mr. Smith

Applicatⁿ from the Gov^r. of Pensylvania for ye Countenance of this Gov^t. in ye Purchase to be made of the Indians in behalf of Mr. Penn.

His Honour communicated a Letter from Governor Morris of the 6th Instant (Pensylvania) desiring the countenance of this Government in respect to a Meeting of the Six Nations of Indians at Col^o. Johnson's House this Spring, where Mr. Morris proposes to treat with them by Commissioners, and to purchase of them in behalf of the Proprietors of that Province, All the Lands within the same, as bounded in the royal Charter. And

¹ Council Minutes, 25:4-5.

desiring that John Lydius who has lately made a Purchase of Lands within that Government, in behalf of some People of Connecticut, may be prosecuted for the Same. The Charges whereof he will defray.

And desirg. that John Lydius may be prosecuted for purchasg. Lands of y^e Indians within that Govern^t.

As to the first Point the Council were of Opinion his Honour might signify to Governor Morris his Consent to the proposed Meeting, Provided that at such Meeting no Lands be purchased on behalf of Mt. Penn, to the Northward of the Beginning of the <43^d> Degree of Northern Latitude, which is esteemed to be the Southern Boundary of this Province in that Part, and the North<ern> Boundary of Pensylvania.

The Councils opinion.

As to the second Point, The Council were of Opinion, as the Charge against the said John Lydius is general, this Board cannot order a Prosecution against him by the Attorney General, but that the Government of Pensylvania might be at Liberty to commence and carry on a Prosecution against him in the King's Name.

FROM RICHARD SHUCKBURGH

A. L. S.

London March y^e 13, 1755

DEAR SIR

As long as there is an Opportunity while I remain here I would not cease to inform you of what passes: I was to wait upon Lord Hallifax to whom I mention'd your Settling at Kingsborough in y^e Way of the Enemy in case of a War which I do assure is very likely & that you was desirous upon y^t Acc^t. to be exempt f^m. y^e quit. he told me he was very sensible of y^r. merit in every respect but that kind of business related to y^e Ministers of the Revenue; it has been tried to be taken of f^m. Cap^t. Cosby's¹ Land but without effect: I shall bring wth. me an order f^m. M^{rs}. Cosby to sell One or may be both sides of that Land forthwith: I told her I shoud consult you ab^t. it. I desir'd My

¹ William Cosby, son of Governor William Cosby.

L^d. Hallifax's favour to obtain a Commission for me to Act as I had done last War as Surgeon to y^e Indians he told me that what ever you thought necessary for that Service you had in y^r. Power to do and what ever mode of Service you thought me capable of I might be Employ'd in without farther recommendation. here are great Armaments making and it is the opinion of every body it will soon be war with France. Y^r. Reputation with L^d. Hallifax¹ & that board is very good & I believe that whatever you draw for or think necessary for the Service will be comply'd wth. I can't learn how far Gen^l. Braddock is to be concernd wth. you.

Adieu f^m. y^r. friend & Serv^t.

R^d SHUCKBURGH

ADDRESSED: To the Hon^{ble}.

Coll. Will^m. Johnson

of his Majesty's Council

in New York

⌘ Cap^t. Griffiths.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: London March 13th 1755

Doctor Shuckburghs letter

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY, EDWARD BRADDOCK AND SIR WILLIAM
PEPPERRELL

*Df.*²

New York 17 March 1755

SIR

Your Excellency's Letter of the 3^d. Instant I did not receive till [*Monday last*³] after the Post went from hence or I should sooner have acknowledged the just sence I have of the Honour you have done me in nominating me for a Command, that were

¹ George Dunk Montague, Earl of Halifax.

² By Banyar. Extract in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:946-47.

³ Erased in original manuscript.

my abilities much greater, I should think them greatly inferior to the qualifications requisite in the person to conduct an Affair of so great Importance. You must be convinced that the little Experience I have had in Military Affairs, cannot entitle me to this distinction preferable to so many of superior merit in your own Government. The Circumstance that I find has determined your Excellency is the Influence I have hitherto maintained with the Indians whose assistance must be of great advantage on this Service, and to obtain it I should have exerted my utmost Interest among them if your Excellency had fixed on some other Person, which would still be very agreeable to me

The five Nations consider the Lands on which Fort St. Frederick is built and considerably further to the Northward as belonging to them and when this Encroachment was first made were not only ready to join but solicited the English to drive off the French from thence, and afterwards when in the late war it was proposed to reduce that Fortress, engaged heartily in it, but to no purpose it being laid aside, and if the being so often trifled with, and the want of places of Security for their Women & children & themselves in case of need to retire to (which they have frequently complained of) does not now deter them, I think I can upon proper Encouragement engage the Assistance of 2 or 300 which I think a sufficient number, and if we succeed, it will not only reclaim those who are lately gone over to the French, but probably the Cachnewagas too and attach the whole Body of the six Nations so firmly to the British Interest that we might depend on their assistance at all times if not wanting to ourselves in a due Management of their affairs. This and the success of your Excellency's Plan of Operations to the Eastward which we have little reason to doubt of, would revive their spirits, and convince them we mean in earnest to oppose the French vigorously: For while they observe the French so active and enterprising and we on the Contrary intirely inattentive to our Interests, they will be averse to the taking any Step that may draw on them the Resentment of the French.

Your Excellency's Letter to Governour DeLancey of the 24 Ult^o. hath determined him to call the Assembly who are to meet here the 25 of this Month, and in the mean time the Gentlemen of the Council and 6 of the Members of the Assembly now in town are to confer with Mr. Pownall on the proposals from your Government, which I heartily wish may be attended with the desired Success: The Council as far as I can observe will come into the Scheme, I can say nothing as to the lower House, and until I know the Result of this Government or your Excellency points out to me in what manner I may be of Service either in engaging the Indians or otherwise, should the Expedition go on, I cannot be very explicit. It may be necessary however to mention that a great number of Batoes will be wanting to transport the Provisions Stores &c^a. none of those being left which were provided for the late Expedition to Canada: and should your Excellency determine to proceed I apprehend Workmen should be employed to make them as soon as possible. As many as can should be made here, for building a great Number at Albany or Schenectady may be the means of apprising the French of our design, and put them on their Guard.

I have been detained here since the first Notice of Commissioners setting out from your Government, and as my staying can be of no Service to further the Scheme on foot I propose to leave this Place on Tuesday or Wednesday next Imagining I shall know by that time the opinion of the Gentⁿ. who confer with Mr. Pownall And on my arrival at home can be taking the proper measures to prepare the Indians in case their assistance should be wanted, which is very necessary and may be done without even raising in them a Suspicion of our real Intentions.

Your Excellencys zeal for his Majestys Service and the welfare of and Security of his Colonies is not more conspicuous in any thing than the Measures you are at present taking, and if all the Colonies proposed to be engaged in the operations this way, act with equal spirit with your own I think, at this favourable juncture we have well grounded hopes of a happy issue. It is

my own and the opinion of every one I converse with, that should the General begin the attack at Niagara (leaving a few Men towards the Ohio to keep the French in Expectation of a Visit there) it would be the speediest Method to deprive them of their Encroachments on the Ohio which they would soon find themselves under a Necessity even to abandon, if we take keep Possession of that important Pass.

To his Excellency WILLIAM SHIRLEY Esq. Captain Genl. & Gov. in chief of his Majestys province of the Massachusetts Bay

To the Hon^{ble}. MAJOR GENERAL EDWARD BRADDOCK Commander in chief of his Majestys Forces in North America.

To SIR WILLIAM PEPPEREL.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: March the 17th. 1755

Coppy of my Letter to Gov^r. Shirley
 Post.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

Sunday Evening 23 March 1755

DEAR SIR

I was apprehensive your sudden departure would be attended probably with some disadvantage if not to your own private Interest yet to that of the Publick. The Governor this Evening received Mr. Shirley's dispatches in answer to those he forwarded from the General, And Mr. Shirley is expected here by the last of this Month, in his way to Annapolis to concert Measures with the General for the carrying into Execution his Majesty's Intentions against the French in their Encroachments. Gov. Shirley expresses to Mr. Pownall a strong expectation of finding you here, and if possible a still greater desire that you should accompany him on this important Affair, and this you will find to be the

Subject of Mr. Pownall's Letter inclosed, which he very justly thought a matter of so great Consequence as to send by an Express. The Governor and myself were present with him an hour ago at Willets¹ when he wrote it, and I have the pleasure to assure you that not only the Regard to the Publick Service but to your own Honour and Interest made us wish you would comply with Mr. Shirley's Request. For as to the first, whatever it may be necessary for him (the General) to be informed of respecting the true state of the Indians, and the assistance we might rely on from them, No person can better acquaint him with, than yourself, and so great a Confidence must be place in you in this particular that I am persuaded, it will strongly influence him to turn his operations towards Niagara, if as I expect you can assure him of the Junction of a considerable number of Indians. And it is the most favourable Opportunity put into your hands, which you could wish for, as an Introduction to the General, In whose Power it will be, to make you some Amends for the hard Measure you have hitherto met with; I say not this, imagining to move you to take this Step from a Motive of private Interest only. I am suff^{ly}. convinced of your extreme desire to advance that of the Publick, but as I know it will be attended with some disadvantage to your private affairs to be so long absent, I was willing to obviate that objection by barely mentioning the light in which I conceive it might be of great advantage to you. You have a convincing proof of Mr. Shirley's Friendship, and can therefore have no room to doubt but he will exert it to his utmost on this Occasion. Excuse then Sir the Freedom I take in thus laying before you my Sentiments, which you will do me the Justice to believe are the mere result of the most disinterested Friendship. I can say no more now but that I am Dr. Colonel

Your faithful humble Servant

GW BANYAR

¹ Edward Willet (Willett), host of the "Province Arms," *Memorial History of the City of New York*, 2:556 (note).

Monday 8 oClock.

P S: I wrote the above between 11 and 12 after coming from Willets where the Governor, Mr. Pownall & myself sat till that time. Mr. Pownall gave me his Letter to send by the Express, but he has not yet call'd for it, and I fear is not willing to undertake the Journey.

The Conference between the Gen^l. & Mr. Shirley is likely rather to forward than to obstruct the other design; if the latter goes on, consider how absolutely necessary your presence will be here *at least*, that you may settle all the proper Points with him (Gov^r. Shirley) On his Return you may imagine he will stay to confer with our Governor on this design if it is to be prosecuted which if approved of by the General, I have very little doubt of the Assembly's coming into. In short Sir I think I cannot manifest a greater Regard for your Interest, than by urging every Argument that might possibly prevail with you to undertake this Journy immediately, in opposition to that prejudice it may be of to your private Concerns.

G. B.

The paper just coming to hand I inclose it

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Mr. Banyars Letter

⌘ Express

March 23^d.¹ 1755

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Df.*²

Boston 26 March 1755

SIR

I am now to acknowledge the receipt of your letter from New York of the 17th. instant. I am very glad to find that there is no exception to your engaging in the Service, for you have mentioned none to me that ought to have any weight; and I hope that

¹ In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:945, in a letter of March 24th from William Shirley to Sir Thomas Robinson, is commendation of Johnson, along with a citation of his opinion.

² In Massachusetts Archives.

you left New York at the time you proposed and that you are now disposing your private Affairs so as that you may be able to take upon you the Command of the Forces of the several Governments as soon as they shall be raised. I have this day ordered a proclamation to be issued for encouraging the enlistment on the part of this Province, and I shall immediately cause advice thereof to be communicated to the Governments of Newhampshire Connecticut & Rhode Island, and as soon as they receive it they will respectively begin their enlistments also, so that I hope in three or four weeks the proposed number from each Government may be raised. I have very unexpectedly received such letters from the ministry by General Braddock, as well as from the General himself, that I cannot avoid leaving my Government, for a short time, in order to meet him at Annapolis in Maryland, and I intend to begin my journey next day after to morrow. I cannot expect to see you at New York, in going out, but I hope to do it on my return. I may probably be at that City in my way home by the 14th. of April and any parts of your letter which the hurry I am now in prevents a particular answer to, I shall then have an opportunity of conferring with you upon. I shall not be unmindful, when I see the General of what you mention relating to Niagara; for such a further division as this proposal will cause in the french forces may as greatly serve our proposed Expedition as it may the success of any other operation we propose, for his Majestys Service on the other parts of the Continent. But what I have greatly at heart & that which is the principal reason of my hastening away this Express to you is the engaging every Warriour of the Six Nations that you can by any means bring into the Expedition. The manner of doing it whether by an advance as a present, to each Man, or to any or all of their Chiefs, or by promising wages or reward for their services I must leave to you who are so well acquainted with their dispositions, but let them be secured at all Events. I have, by my recommendation, obtained a Vote of the Assembly of this Province, copy of which I shall inclose to you, engaging for their part of the Expence you may find necessary in this Affair,

and you need not doubt their compliance; and I shall also send a Copy to each of the other Governments who I am satisfied will make no difficulty of their parts also for no one branch of the Charges that must attend this Expedition can be more necessary or what they will come more readily into.

I shall leave such directions for prosecuting this Affair during my absence as that it may be as little retarded as possible and I expect to return to give the necessary Orders before the time when it shall be requisite to begin the march. I am

Sir &c.

At all Events, I can't think it posible that the Ministry will not esteem this important service of yours at a very high rate, and not only defray all necessary expence, if there was a possibility of any difficulty in the Colony Govern^{ts}. doing it, w^{ch} I can't concieve there will, but make you a suitable recompence over and above what the Gov^{ts}. concern'd may do.

INDORSED: M^r Clerk

Copy this over fair

THE PROPRIETORS AND SIX NATIONS

*Extract*¹

At a Council held at the City Hall in the City of New York on Thursday the 27th Day of March 1755.

Present

The Hon^{ble}. James De Lancey Esq. Lieu^t. Gov^r. &c^a.

Mr. Kennedy

Mr. Chambers

Mr. Holland

Mr. Smith

The Governor communicated a Letter of the 25th Instant from Governor Morris, touching the Purchase he proposes to make of the Indians in Behalf of M^r. Penn, of the Lands included within the Grant of the Crown; In which M^r. Morris says "that

<Further> opin
of <ye Council>
as to ye. Pur<ch
in> tended to be
<made of the>
Indians in <beha
of> Mr. Penn.

¹ Council Minutes, 25:11.

in case they can agree with the Indians, he proposes to take the Grant in the express Words of Mr. Penn's Charter, and against this he conceives this Government can have no Objection, since this Province, will be after any such Indian Purchase, in the very same Circumstances it is now, as to the Interpretation of the Extent of the King's Grant, for tho' they differ widely in this Point, yet the Claim of this Province will not be at all affected, if the Indian Boundaries be the very same with those described in the Royal Charter".

The Council adhere to their former Opinion on this Matter entered in the Minutes on the 12th Instant, and advise his Hon^r. to send a Copy thereof to Col^o. William Johnson, and to signify to him, it is the Opinion of this Board, that he do his utmost to prevent any Purchase being made of the Indians, otherways than may be expressly conformable to their said Former Opinion.

FROM RICHARD SHUCKBURGH

A. L. S.

London March y^e 28 1755

DEAR S^r.

I have wrote to you by every Opportunity except Miller as Richards was to sail so suddenly after & being the last ship before I imbarck myself I waited till then & have nothing material to say only to Repeat that Indian Affairs are intirely in Y^r. Hands. I shall attend Gov^r. Hardy¹ to New York who sets out next Month. Admiral Clinton has been ill ever since his arrival but however now makes shift occasionally to go to the house of Commons when there is any thing to carry of importance, he has been down in the Opinion of People but seems to be picking up again. great Armaments are making by Sea & Land & it is thought a War is unavoidable. the plan of Operation in America I understand is intirely left to Gen^l. Bradock & great dependance on

¹ Sir Charles Hardy, governor of New York from 1755 to 1757.

you in regard to the Accession of the Six Nations to our Interest People here are unanimous for a War with France & think the People in America able & have heard that they are willing not only to defend themselves but annoy the Enemy. I wish wth. all my soul it may be so. we have no Parties here every one is for a War with the french & the Parliament have granted a Million to Enable his Majesty augment his forces by Sea & Land to Act on any Emergency as I soon shall have the pleasure to See you I take my leave now & am as from my earliest Acquaintance wth. you

Y^r. most obligd & most humble Serv^t.

R^d SHUCKBURGH

ADDRESSED: To the Hon^{ble} Coll: Will^m. Johnson.
to be forwarded inclos'd
☞ favour Archibald Kennedey Esq^r.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: March 28th. 1755
Letter from M^r. Shuckburgh

THE COUNCIL AT ALEXANDRIA

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, by Minutes of the council at Alexandria, Va., dated April 14 (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:648-51; Q 2:378-79). The manuscript is preserved.

COMMISSION FROM EDWARD BRADDOCK¹

D. S.

Alexandria, 15th April, 1755

By His Excellency Edward Braddock Esq^r General & Commander in Chief of all His Majestys Forces in North America
To William Johnson Esq^r.

By Virtue of the Power & Authority to me given & granted by His Majesty to appoint a proper Person or Persons to have the sole Management & direction of the Affairs of the Six

¹ In Canadian Archives.

Nations of Indians & their Allies, to the end that the said Indians may be heartily engaged in & attached to the British Interest, I do hereby appoint you the said William Johnson in the Name & behalf of His Majesty to superintend & manage the Affairs of the said Nations & their Allies, giving you full Power & Authority to treat & confer with them as often and upon such matters as you shall judge necessary for His Majestys Service & as shall be agreeable to the Instructions herewith given you or which you shall hereafter receive from me. And you are from time to time to make report to me of your Proceedings herein. And of all material Occurrances which may affect His Majestys Interest with the said Six Nations or their Allies. And all Persons to whom the Direction of the Affairs of the said Nations or their Allies have been heretofore committed, and all others whatsoever are strictly required & enjoined to cease & forbear acting or intermeddling therein.

And as it may be necessary for carrying on the Service with which you are charged by Virtue of the Power hereby given you to employ a Secretary & one or more Interpreters, I do hereby give you full Power to appoint them & make such reasonable Allowance to them as you shall judge Necessary. For all w^{ch} this shall be your Warrant & Authority. Given at the Camp at Alexandria this fifteenth day of April 1755

E BRADDOCK

By His Excellencys

Command

W. Shirley

A true Copy

Peter Wraxall

Secre^{ry}

for Indian Affairs.

TO PETER WRAXALL¹Copy²

SIR

Alexandria 15 April 1755.

General Braddock having with the Advice of the Council met here committed the superintendency & sole management of Indian Affairs to me and empowered me to employ a Secretary and as many Interpreters as may be requisite to assist me in the discharge of the Trust My Regard for you as well as to his Majesty's Commission lead me to apply to the General for his leave to you to return to act in your Office of Secretary for Indian Affairs which he has been pleased to grant the present is a critical juncture and obliges me to Obtain the best Assistance I can. I shall not therefore doubt of your acting in Person since otherwise I shall be defeated of that view for his Majesty's Service which I had in making this Application to the General and, as I have it in my power, you may depend on my making you a reasonable Gratuity in Consideration of the additional trouble which the discharge of your office may probably be

¹ Peter Wraxall was a son of John Wraxall, of Bristol, England. He came to the province of New York not later than 1746. That year he raised a company to take part in the expedition designed against Canada, returning the following year to England. In 1752 he came to America again, and claimed, by royal appointment, the offices of town clerk, clerk of the peace and clerk of the common pleas in the city and county of Albany, as well as that of Indian secretary, but was unable to assume the functions of town clerk, his right being disputed by the incumbent of the office, Harme Gansevoort. As secretary for Indian affairs, Wraxall prepared an abridgment of the records of Indian transactions from 1678 to 1751. In January 1755 he was appointed a captain in the New York regiment; and before the opening of the Lake George campaign he was made secretary and aide-de-camp to General Johnson. He acquitted himself with marked credit in that expedition. He died July 11, 1759 at about the age of forty years. See *Biographical Notice of Peter Wraxall* by Daniel J. Pratt, Albany 1870, Joel Munsell's *Annals of Albany*, 10:145-49, and Wraxall's *Abridgment of the New York Indian Records*, ed. C. H. McIlwain, p. 5-7.

² By G. Banyar.

attended with in the present State of Affairs. As I understand the General's Order is that you repair to me immediately, you will no doubt find me at Mount Johnson where I shall be glad to see you as soon as possible.

INDORSED: Alexandria 15th April

1755

Coppy of my letter to
Peter Wraxall Esq^r.

FROM JAMES DE LANCEY¹

D. S.

New York, 16th April, 1755.

By the Honourable James De Lancey

Esq^r: his Majesty's Lieutenant Governour and
Commander in Chief in and over the Province of
New York and the Territories Depending thereon
in America.

To William Johnson Esq^r. Greeting

Whereas by my Commission² dated this day under my seal at arms I have appointed you to be Major General & Commander in Chief of the Forces now Raised by this Government, and by the Governments of the Massachusetts bay, New Hampshire, Connecticut and Rhode Island, for an Expedition against the French — Incroachments at Crown Point, and upon the Lake Champlain; as also of such Indians as shall assist in the service of the said Expedition: I do hereby give you the following Instructions & orders for the Regulation of your Conduct.

- 1st. You are to engage as soon as possible as many of the Indians of the Six Nations, as you can in the aforesaid Service, upon the Incouragements proposed to be given them by the aforesaid Colonies, as also those ordered by his Excellency Major General Braddock to be given them in

¹ In Maryland Historical Society. Compare with instructions from Shirley.

² *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:653-54; Q, 2:381.

his Majesties Name; and you are to appoint such officers to lead and Conduct the said Indians as you shall Judge for his Majesties Service.

2^{dly}. When you shall have finished your aforesaid Business with the Indians, you are to repair to the City of Albany, and there wait the arrival of the Forces to be employed in the aforesaid Expedition; and as soon as such a Number of them shall arrive there as you shall Judge sufficient for that Service, you are to proceed with the Train of Artillery and ordnance Stores provided for the Expedition, under their Convoy to Crownpoint, clearing as you pass along a practicable Road for the Transportation of them and the other Stores, and to cause such strong houses and places of security to be Erected as shall be requisite to serve for Magazines of Stores, places of shelter for the Men in their March and return to and from the said City of Albany; and you are to leave the Necessary orders for such of the said Forces as shall not be arrived at the time of your departure from Albany to follow you to Crown point as soon as may be.

3^{dly}. Upon your arrival at Crown point you are to Cause one or more Battery's to be Erected upon the Rockey Eminence nigh Fort st. Frederick, or as near as may be to the said Fort upon the most advantageous Ground for Commanding the same, and to point the said Battery or Batteries against the said Fort, and in Case you shall meet with any Resistance in the Erecting the said Battery or Batteries from the Garrison of Fort St: Frederick, you are to attack the same, and use your utmost efforts to dislodge the French and to take Possession thereof.

4^{thly}. In Case you shall not be Interrupted or annoyed by the French in Erecting the said Batteries, then as soon as you shall have finished the same, you are to send a summons to the Commandant of Fort St. Frederick, requiring him forthwith to retire with the Garrison under his Command, from the same, as being an Incroachment upon his Majesties

Territories, within the Country belonging to the Indians of the six nations, and erected Contrary to the Treaty of Utrecht made between the Crowns of Great Brittain and France, whereby the Indians of the then Five Nations are Expressly declared to be subject to the Crown of Great Brittain; and in Case the said Commandant shall upon Such summons refuse or Neglect to Evacuate the same, you are to Compell him to it, by force of Arms, & to break up all the French Settlements which you shall find near the said Fort or upon the Lake Champlain.

5^{thly}. If you should succeed in your attempt against Fort s^t. Frederick, you are Immediately upon your becoming Master of it, to strengthen yourself therein, and erect such Works as with the advice of a Councill of Warr, which you shall summons for that purpose, you shall think necessary to preserve that Important post, and you are to put into it such a Garrison as you shall Judge sufficient to maintain the same; but as the said Fort may not be Situated in the most Convenient or advantageous place, for securing the Possession of that Country to his Majesty, you are by yourself and your officers to survey and Examine the several places upon the Lake Champlain, and to find out such other place as you and a Councill of Warr, shall Judge best to answer that Purpose, of which you are to give me Immediate Notice with your & the Councils Reasons for making Choice of the place, you shall agree upon.

6^{thly}. You are to give me a Regular and Constant Account from time to time of what you do in discharge of the Trust reposed in you, which you are to Transmitt by Express to Albany to be forwarded to me or the Commander in Chief.

7^{thly}. You are by means of the Indians, or by any other means, to procure the best Intelligence you can, of the designs and motions of the French, the number of any body of Troops, they may Employ, to oppose you, or any other of the Kings Forces, all which you are to Communicate to me or the Commander in Chief from time to time.

8^{thly}. You are to acquaint the Indians of the Six Nations, if you shall Judge it, from the Temper you find them in, proper so to do, with his Majesties design to Recover their Lands at Niagara, and upon the River Ohio, out of the hands of the French, and to protect them against future Incroachments, for the benefitt of their Tribes: and to Engage some of them to meet his Excellency Governour Shirley at Oswego, in order to assist him therein upon Such services as he shall order them to go upon, assuring them of his good Disposition towards their several Castles, and that they will be generously Entertained by him.

Lastly. As to all other Matters concerning which you have no particular Instruction herein given you, you are to use your Discretion therein for the Good of his Majesties Service always Consulting thereupon with a Councill of Warr to Consist at least of the Commanding Officer of the Troops of each Province engaged in the Expedition, acquainting me or the Commander in Chief of this Province with your Proceedings as soon as may be.

Given under my hand at New York the
sixteenth — day of April — One Thousand seven
hundred and fifty five.

JAMES DE LANCEY

INDORSED: N. York April 16th, 1755

Gov^r. Delanceys

Instructions

to Mr. William Johnson

Given to R. Gilmor in 1831 ¹

by the Rev^d. W. B. Spurgen of
Albany

See in J. K. Pauling's novel
of the Dutchman's fireside an
interesting anecdote of the appointmt.
of Col. Johnson to the expedition against

¹ This in the hand of one of the owners of the letter.

Crown Point, an account of his superior acquaintance with Indian Warfare & claiming from superior officers obedience to his orders.

R. G.

INSTRUCTIONS FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY
D. S.

April 16, 1755

By his Excellency Will^m: Shirley Esq^r. Captain General and Commander in Chief in and over the Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England and of the Lands and Territories thereon depending Vice Admiral of the same and Colonel in his Majesty's Army.

To William Johnson, Esq^r. Greeting:

Whereas by my Commission¹ dated this day under my Seal at Arms, I have appointed you to be Major General and Commander in Chief of the Forces now raising by the said Government of the Massachusetts Bay, New York, New Hampshire, Connecticut and Rhode Island for an Expedition against the French Incroachments at Crown Point, and upon the Lake Champlain; as also of such Indians as shall assist in the Service of the said Expedition: I do hereby give you the following Instructions and Orders for the Regulation of your Conduct.

- 1st. You are to engage as soon as possible as many of the Indians of the six Nations, as you can in the aforesaid Service upon the Encouragements proposed to be given them by the aforesaid Colonies; as also those Ordered by his Excellency Major General Braddock to be given them in his Majesty's Name, and you are to appoint such officers to lead and Conduct the said Indians as you shall Judge for his Majestys Service.
- 2^{dly}. When you shall have finished your aforesaid Business with the Indians, you are to repair to the City of Albany, and

¹ *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:651-53; Q, 2:380-81.

there wait the Arrival of the forces to be Employed in the aforesaid Expedition; and as soon as such a Number of them shall arrive there as you shall judge sufficient for that Service, you are to proceed with the Train of Artillery and Ordnance Stores Provided for the Expedition, under their Convoy to Crown Point, clearing as you pass along a practicable Road for the transportation of them and the other stores, and to cause such Strong Houses and places of Security to be erected as shall be requisite to serve for Magazines of Stores, Places of Shelter for the Men in their March, and return to & from the said City of Albany: and you are to leave the necessary Orders for such of the said Forces as shall not be arrived at the time of your Departure from Albany, to follow you to Crown point as soon as may be.

3^{dly}. Upon your arrival at Crown point you are to cause one or more Batteries to be erected upon the rocky Eminence nigh Fort st. frederick or as near as may be to the said Fort upon the most advantageous Ground for Commanding the same, and to point the said Battery or Batteries against the said Fort; and in case you shall meet with any Resistance in the Erecting of the said Battery or Batteries from the Garrison of Fort Frederick you are to attack the same; and use your utmost Efforts to dislodge the French Garrison and to take possession thereof.

4^{thly}. In Case you shall not be interrupted or annoy'd by the French in erecting the said Batteries, then as soon as you shall have finished the same; you are to send a Summons to the Commandant of Fort St. Frederick requiring him forthwith to retire with the Garrison under his Command, from the same, as being an Encroachment upon his Majestys Territories within the Country belonging to the Indians of the Six Nations, and erected contrary to the Treaty of Utrecht, made between the Crowns of Great Britain and

France, whereby the Indians of the then six¹ Nations are expressly declared to be subject to the Crown of Great Britain; and in case the said Commandant shall upon such Summons refuse or neglect to vacate the same, you are to Compel him to do it by force of Arms, and to break up all the French settlements which you shall find near the said Fort or upon the Lake Champlain.

- 5^{thly}. If you should succeed in your Attempt against ffort St. frederick you are immediately upon your becoming Master of it to strengthen yourself therein and erect such Works as with the advice of a Council of War which you shall Summon for that purpose you shall think necessary to preserve that important post; and you are to put into it such a Garrison, as you shall judge sufficient to maintain the same. But as the said Fort may not be situated in the most convenient or advantageous place for securing the possession of that Country to the English, you are by yourself and your Officers to Survey and Examine the several places upon the Lake Champlain and to find out such other place as you and a Council of War shall judge best to Answer that purpose, of which you are to give me immediate Notice with your and the Councils Reasons for making Choice of the place you shall agree upon that I may be enabled to give the necessary Orders for fortifying the same.
- 6^{thly}. You are to give me a regular and constant Account from time to time in discharge of the Trust reposed in you, which you are to transmit by express to me wherever I shall happen to be.
- 7^{thly}. You are by means of the Indians or by any other means, to procure the best intelligence you can of the designs and motions of the French the number of any Body of Troops

¹ The peace of Utrecht was established March 31, 1713. The Tuscaroras joined the Five Nations in the following year probably. W. M. Beauchamp, *A History of the New York Iroquois*, p. 148; also C. Colden, *A History of the Five Indian Nations*, p. XVI, with the editor's note, p. 128.

they may Employ to oppose you or any other of the Kings Forces; all which you are to Communicate to me from time to time.

8thly. You are to acquaint the Indians of the Six Nations, if you shall judge it from the Temper you find them in, proper so to do, with his Majesty's design to recover their Lands at Niagara & upon the River Ohio out of the Hands of the French, and to protect them against future Incroachments for the benefit of their Tribes: and to engage some of them to meet me at Oswego, in order to assist me therein, upon such Services as I shall Order them to Go upon; assuring them of my good disposition towards their several Castles, and that they shall be generously entertained by me.

Lastly. You are to use your discretion in acting for the Good of his Majesty's Service, consistent with the Instructions before given you, in the Business Committed to your Charge, in any matters concerning which you have no particular Instructions Given you; acquainting me constantly with your doing therein as soon as possible.

Given under my Hand ye sixteenth day of April One thousand seven hundred and fifty five.

W SHIRLEY

COMMISSIONS TO JOHNSON

The preceding paper is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 31 by Johnson's commission from Shirley, dated April 16th (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:651-53; Q, 2:380-81), and the draft of a commission from DeLancey (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:653-54; Q, 2:381). The originals are preserved.

TO GEORGE CROGHAN¹

A. Df. S.

New York April 23^d. 1755

SIR

Tho unacquainted, (wh. I am sorry for) I must beg leave to

¹ For a sketch of George Croghan, the trader and Indian agent, see *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:982-83 (note).

take the liberty of desiring you to speak to Scaroooyady or half King¹ in my Name with a Belt of Wampum, the Expence of w^h. (when Known) I will gratefully pay letting him know that the generall has thought proper (wth. the approbation of all the gov^{rs}. met at Alexandria last Week) to put the Sole direction & Superintendency of Indian Affairs in my Hands, which (from w^t. he has said to me) I doubt not will be as agreable to Him, & his People there, as to the Six Nations. If so, then please to tell him my desire is that He goes with as many Indians as he can procure & Join the general wherever he is, & Serve him in the best Manner he can, Who beyond all doubt will reward him & his Party generously. I shall Send Some of the Six Nations there as soon as I get Home, in order to Serve as Outscouts &^{ca}. Excuse this freedom of mine proceeding from a hearty inclination to forward the Service and a thorough Sense of your capacity & readiness to assist in a thing of that kind. I propose mentioning it to y^e. General, so should be glad to be favoured with a few lines from you on y^e. subject with Scaroooyady's Answer. Expecting which, I shall add nothing further now than that I am Sr.

Your welwisher & verry Humble Serv^t.

W. J.

GEORGE CROGHAN Esq^r.

Copia prope Vera

AN ARTILLERY ESTIMATE²

D.

A Rough Estimate of the Expence of transporting y^e Artillery and making Carriages &^{ca}.

6 Cannon of 18 th pounders their carriages	£50 ☞	£300
6 feild Peices Carriages for them	£20 ☞	120
to Horses, & drivers Sufficient to carry them		
to Crown point in 14 Days at £12 ☞ Day		168

¹ A Delaware chief.

² On same sheet as Johnson to Croghan, April 23, 1755.

Hits ¹ or 3 Mortars, and a Sufficient Number of Shells to their transportation thither by land & Water	£50
Battoes with proper Tools	£5 “ 8 ④ 4320
Tarpaulins or painted Cloaths for Covering the Battoes with Amunition Stores	800
Weight of Sheet lead for aprons	1 “ 4
Cartrage Paper for Musquets	
D°. for Cannon	
20 Gallons of Oyl for Arms	8
Carrying all the Battoes from Hudsons River to the South Bay, Supposeing 800 Battoes at 20s ④	800
transportation of the Amunition, provisions, &c over the Said carrying place allowing Each Battoe to carry 2 Waggon Load	1200
the transportation of the Battoes, & remdr. of the Stores, Amunition &ca. back again	1000
5 Ct. wg ^t . of Strong rope for pulling the Cannon from the place of landing near Crown Point, to the proper place	12
2 Hand screws	10
A gin or Triangle for hoisting y ^e . guns in, & out of Battoes	5
3 Dozen of Sheep Skins	
Spunge, Tacks, two thousand, Copper nails for Ladles 2 ^{fl} .	4
1 Coil of lashing ropes for Mortars 3 Inch white	
1 D°. of Hamburgh line white	
2 lawn Sieves with tops, & Bottoms	
40 Tanned Hides for Covering powder 20 ④	40
200 rounds of 18. ^{fl} Shott for 6 Cannon is 21600 ^{fl} @	230
300 Shells for the Mortars	
20 leather buckets	14

¹ Abbreviation for howitzer.

6 Muscovy lights 15 ^s Ⓕ	4 " 10
1 ton of Oakum, or Hay for Wadding	
wheelbarrows, and baskets to be made there	
120 barrels of powder fine for Mortars, & Shells	
	£12 Ⓕ
150 barrels of Cannon powder	12 Ⓕ
	3240

AN ACT OF THE GENERAL COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS

*Attested Copy**In the House of Representatives April 28. 1755*

Voted that this Government will pay their proportion with the other Governments engaged in the intended Expedition to Crown Point of the Several Officers hereafter named, the respective Sums annexed to their Name

1 Engineer who shall be Captain				
of the Artillery.....	12..	16..	—	} Ⓕ Month
A Lieutenant of the Artillery	5..	6..	8	
A Second Engineer.....	4..	5..	4	
3 Sub Engineers.....	2..	13..	4	
16 Gunners	2..	—	—	

Sent up for Concurrence,

T Hubbard, Sp^{kr}.

In Council June 21. 1755 Read and Concur'd.

THO^s. CLARKE Dp^{ty}. Secry

Consented to.

W Shirley

Copy Examined Ⓕ THO^s. CLARKE, Dp^{ty}. Secry.

INDORSED: Votes of the Massachusetts Gov^t.
for the Pay of Engineer &c.

AN ESTIMATE OF ORDNANCE AND STORES

Estimate of the Train and the Stores & Necessaries to be provided at the general Expenditure of the Colonies engaging in the Design of Building a Fort near the French Fort at Crown Point

A. D.¹

New York

April 30th. 1755

6 Iron Ordnance	£ 18	
4 Brass D°	£ 6	
2 Mortars 13 Inch diameter		
1 Brass D°	8 $\frac{3}{4}$	
6 Royals and Cohorns		
200 Shells sized		
1200 Shott £ 18 a £20 ⌘ Ton.....	216: 0:0	
200 Shott £ 6. D°.....	12: 0:0	
200 Charges Grape Shott for the Field Ps being 12 Ct. @ 50s	30: 0:0	
180 Blls Cannon Powder @ £12.....	2160: 0:0	
120 Blls fine Powder for Mortars & Shells.....	1440: 0:0	
3 Rheams Cannon Cartridge Paper @ 46....	6:18:0	
2400 Wadds for £ 18 28/ ⌘ C		15:—:—
800 D° for £ 6 28/		
6 Rammers & Spunges for £ 18 5/.....	1:10:—	
6 Ladles & Worms for D° 40/.....	12:—:—	
4 Rammers & Spunges for £ 6 3/.....	0:12:—	
4 Ladles & Worms for D° 10/.....	2: 0:0	
10 Priming Horns, 5/6	}	3: 0:0
10 Priming Wires 6 ^d		
100 £ Sheet Lead for Aprons.....	2:16:0	
10 Tompkins sized 8 ^d	0: 6:8	

¹ In hand of G. Banyar.

20	Leather Buckets @ 14 ^s	14: 0:0
2	Hand Screws @ £5.....	10: 0:0
1	Ginn	25: 0:0
24	Sheepskins @ 2/.....	2: 8:0
10	Fathom of 5 inch Rope for Gunslings } @ 5/.....	2:10:—
200	fl Match @ 53 ^s	5: 6:0
1	Ashen Mortar and Pestle.....	3:—:—
2	Lawn Sieves with Tops & Bottoms }	4:—:—
2	Hair D° D° D° }	
1	Coil lashing Rope for Mortars } @ 1/ 7 fl.	2:16:0
	White 3 inch. 56 fl	
15	Skains D°. for small Mortars } @ 3/6 7 fl..	2:10:0
	Hamburgh Line White }	
1	Stillyard to weigh 200 fl.....	0:16:0
1	D° to weigh 50 fl.....	0:12:0
20	large Horn Lanthorns @ 12/.....	12: 0:0
4	Muscovy Lights @ 15 ^s	3: 0:0
½	Chaldron Sea Coal.....	1: 0:0
1	Sett Smiths Tools.....	25: 0:0
300	fl Barr Iron sorted @ 30 ^s	4:10:0
100	fl Steel	4: 0:0
4	Grind Stones at 8 ^s	1:12:0
3	Cask Nails sorted £9.....	27: 0:0
12	Whet Stones at 2 ^s	1: 4:0
24	Padlocks Sorted @ 2 ^s hasps & Staples.....	3:12:0
28	fl Flax @ 1/6.....	2: 2:0
12	Skeins Tarr'd Line }	
12	D° white D° }	@ 3/6.....
6	Setts Carpenters Tools @ £5	30: 0:0
6	Setts Masons Tools @ 12 ^s	3:12:0
6	Whip Saws @ 40 ^s	12: 0:0
6	Cross Cutt Saws @ 30	9: 0:0

1000 Wood Axes	@ 5 ^s	250: 0:0
400 Iron Shovels	@ 4 ^s	80: 0:0
200 Spades	@ 7 ^s	70: 0:0
200 Pick Axes	@ 5	50:—:—
200 Bill Hooks	@ 4 ^s	40: 0:0
50 Iron Wedges	@ 4/6	11: 5:0
50 Rings for 25 Beetles	@ 1/6	3:15:0
200 $\frac{1}{2}$ Oakum at 4 ^d . $\frac{1}{2}$		3:15:0
1 Smith @ 6 ^s $\frac{1}{2}$ diem 150 days		45: 0:0
4 Carpenters @ 6 ^s $\frac{1}{2}$ diem		180: 0:0
1 Dozen of broad Axes 8/		4:16:0
6 Barrels Pitch & Tarr @ 15 ^s		4:10:0
1 D ^o Tallow		6: 4:0
100 $\frac{1}{2}$ Candles @ 8 ^d		3: 6:8
10 Gallons Oil for Arms @ 12 ^s		6: 0:0
100 $\frac{1}{2}$ Rope 5 Inch for drawing Cannon		5:—:—
200 Tarpawlines to cover Stores. @ 40 ^s		400: 0:0
6 Carriages for transporting the heavy Cannon @ £25.... }		150: 0:0
4 Carriages for the Field Pieces @ £15		60: 0:0
3 Beds for the Mortars @ £5		15: 0:0
6 Large Strong Battoes for carrying the heavy Cannon £10		60: 0:0
100 Battoes for carrying all the other Stores at £5/8		540: 0:0
Waggon Hire		3000: 0:0
Horses & Men for the Carriages with the Cannon		120: 0:0
To charge of transporting the above Stores to Albany.... }		120: 0:0

£9351:18:—

Six Iron Crow bars 30 ^s ₤.....	9:—:—
Incidents w ^h . may have escaped my observation	}..... 640:—:—
	10,000:—:—

a Vessel of abt 40 Tons to be built
imediately on Lake Champlain.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: An Estimate of y^e. train
& ordnance Stores for Crown
Point Expedition
April 30th. 1755

AN ESTIMATE MADE BY THE JERSEY ASSEMBLY OF THE
EXPENSE OF 500 MEN FOR CROWN POINT EXPEDITION

D.

An Estimate made by the Jersey Assembly April 1755

500 good striped Blankets....	@ 10/...	£250 — —
500 good lapelled Coats.....	@ 30/...	750 — —
500 Felt Hatts	@ 3/...	75 — —
1000 Check Shirts	7/6..	375 — —
1000 Pr. Ozanbrig Trousers.....	9/6..	475 — —
500 Pr. Shoes	7/6..	187 10 —
500 Pr. Stockings	4/...	100 — —
100 Tents 33 y ^{ds} . Each.....	70/...	350 — —
500 Stand of Arms.....	@ 70/...	1750 — —
15 barrels of powder.....	@ £10....	150 — —
45 Ct. lead	34....	76 10 —
500 Volunteers Bounty for them 30 ^s		750 — —
500 Subsistance for 20 days @ 9 ^d ₤.....		367 10 —
192 bar ^{ls} . Pork	60 ^s ₤.....	576 — —
110 D ^o . Beef	40.....	220 — —
600 ^{Ct} of Bread.....	15 ₤.....	450 — —
2000 gallons of Rum.....	2/3 ₤.....	225 — —
200 Bushels pease	5/.....	50 — —
3500 ^{lb} of Bacon.....	6/ ¹	87 10 —

¹ This should be pence, not shillings.

50 ^{Ct} of flower.....	15/.....	40 — —
40 ^{Ct} of Rice.....	16/.....	35 — —
1500 ^{lb} of Cheese.....	4½.....	30 — —
1500 of Butter	9/ ¹	56 5 —
900 gallons Molasses..	2/ w ^h . is 32 barrels.	90 — —
15 ^{Ct} . of Tobacco.....	25/.....	18 15 —
A Chirurgion 120 Days @ 7/6.	£45 — —	} 127 10 —
His Mate	@ 3/9. 22 10 —	
Chest of Medicines.....	60 — —	

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Jersey Estimate of the
Expende of 500 Men
for C. Point Expedition

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

The fragment of an undated letter from Johnson to Shirley, containing estimates, following this in the Johnson Calendar, was destroyed in the fire.

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

A. D.

May 1, 1755

A Row Galley of 40 Tons mounted with Six Swivels, and a Couple of Cannon carrying 2 ^{lb} Shot, verry necessary to be immediately built for the Service at Lake Champlain, as such a Vessel well fitted & Manned must command any thing the French have as yet there, and of course prevent their Sending any Succours to Crown Point Fort. This would also facilitate our peircing further into that Country if necessary and effectually prevent, & deter any Parties of their Indians from attempting a passage that Way.

Forts indispensably necessary to be built at the Most important [*and dangerous*] Passes, which may not only favour

¹ This should be pence, not shillings.

a retreat in case of any Disaster but [*will be proper*] Serve as Magazines for lodgeing provisions &ca in. & also as Hospitals for Sick or Wounded.

The first I would propose to be built at, or near Mr. Lyddiu's Place from whence we must have every thing Carried by land to a place called the South Bay which is near 20 Miles from Hudsons River, a Second to be built there, Which is the place we take to our Boats again, the third to be built at Tie'non'-de'ro'go which is at the North End of Lake St: Sacrament, a verry Dangerous, & important place, & to be secured at all Events, as it will then command the only two passes they have to our Country, as may be seen by the Draught of them Lakes.

It is realy a Second Niagara this Way being also a Strait

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: For Gov^r Shirley
Some remarks
Given him y^e. Original
May 1st. 1755.—

FROM JAMES DE LANCEY

L. S.

New York 3^d May 1755

SIR

The Indians of the two Mohawk Castles having desired Forts may be built among them for the Security of themselves and their Families; and his Majestys Council having advised me to order two to be built, one at the upper and the other at the lower Castle, and to draw for that Expence out of the Fund of £5000 appropriated by Act of Assembly for refreshing his Majesty's Troops &ca. I must desire, if you find the Indians still desirous of having those Forts built, you would immediately employ proper Persons to build them, and give them the necessary Directions But that you will be careful the Expence do not exceed five hundred pounds, and upon your rendring me an Account thereof,

you shall receive a Warrant on the Treasurer for payment of it.
I am Sir

Your most humble Servant

JAMES DE LANCEY

The Hon^{ble} WILLIAM JOHNSON Esq^r.

If Col: Johnson sends Accounts of the Expence as it accrues
the Governor will issue Warrants from time to time.

INDORSED: May 3^d. 1755

Orders to build two

Forts for the Mohawks

FROM ROBERT H. MORRIS¹

L. S.

<May 3^d 1755, New York>

SIR

As I have not been able from the Hurry of Business you have
been engaged in to speak to you so fully as I would Do upon the
affair of Lydius's purchase of Lands in Pensilvania for some
People of Connecticut I must beg Leave to trouble you with this
letter upon the head.

You may remember the Manner proposed Effectually to dis-
troy the Effect of that Clandestine transaction of Lydius & to
prevent the Like for the future was to envite the six nations to send
deputys to your House to declare their Sense of that Deed and
to make an Absolute Conveyance to the proprietarys of Pensil-
vania of all the Lands within the Limitts of their Grant from the
Crown, and M^r. Delancey having some Doubts Concerning the
Northern boundary of M^r. Penn's Grant I assured him that I
proposed to take the Deed from the Indians in the same words
with the Kings grant having no Intention to Extend the province
by an Indian Purchase further than the Bounds Expressed in the
Royal Charter would carry it This I believe has Satisfied M^r.

¹ Governor of Pennsylvania, 1754-56.

Delancey as he has made no further Objection to the thing For Carrying it Therefore into Execution.

I propose that agreeable to your friendly Offer of Assistance in this Affair That you <should Invite the Six Nations to your house Either Solely upon this Subject, or Joyn this> Invitation with the one you are to <send them upon> the Publick service, or take no notice of <it in the> invitation as you shall Judge Best and <that you will> be good Enough to Let me know the time <Appointed> for their being at your House that I may send <proper> Commissioners to transact this matter under your advise and Assistance. Gov^r. Shirley to whom I have fully Communicated this Matter is of Opinion that the makeing this purchase at the time of your meeting with them upon other Matters will be very proper and not in the Least Interfere with the publick Service.

As to the Consideration I think besides a sum of Money down there must be an Annual payment for a Certain term of years to be Agreed on at the meeting in which your Advice will have Great Weight with me and the persons Employed. I have Orders from the proprietarys of Pensilvania to Return you their thanks for the part you have taken in this Affair and to begg the Continuance of your Good Offices which you may be Assured will meet with the most Gratefull Return from them.

I am Sir

Your Most Obed^t Humble Serv^t

ROBT H. MORRIS

ADDRESSED: <To The Hono^{ble} William Johnson, Esq^r — one of His Majesties Councill for the province of New York>

RESOLVES OF NEW YORK ASSEMBLY

*Attested Copy*¹

Assembly Chamber the 3^d May 1755

Resolved that it is the opinion of this House that the allowance to the officer who is to Command in Chief the united Forces of this and the neighbouring Colonies on the intended service of Erecting one or more Forts nigh Crown Point on his Majesty's Lands together with the necessary expence he shall be put to ought to be a common charge among all the Colonies engaged therein.

Resolved that this House will make Provision for supplying the just Proportion of this Colony towards the said Common Charge.

Ordered that Captain Richard and Col^o. Beekman wait on his Honour the Lieu^t Governor with the aforesaid Resolutions.

By order of the Gen^l Assembly,

Abr^m Lott, jun^r Clk.

Copy Exam^d. By

GW BANYAR D Secry

INDORSED: May 3^d. 1755

Resolves of the Assembly
of New York

TO THE SEVERAL GOVERNORS

*Cont mporary Copy*²

Newyork May the 5th 1755.

SIR

Being appointed Commander in chief of the Colony Forces for the proposed expedition to Crown Point, I think it incumbent

¹ By Banyar.

² This letter, with some variations from the draft, was printed in the *Rural Magazine or Vermont Repository* for November, 1796, 2:536-37.

on me, as much as in my Power, to remove every Difficulty in the Way of the Service & to Suggest every thing that may Favour the Success of it. As the Train of artillery is so essentially necessary, that we can not move without it, and is to be furnished by the Eastern Colonies, I make no Doubt your Honour will do every thing on your part, that it be provided with all the Expedition possible, that our March may not be retarded or our Stay at Albany longer then absolutely necessary, which may confirm the Enemy in their Suspicion of an attack, if the Intelligence may unhappily have reached them; I am apprehensive we shall be destitute of proper Persons to manage the Train, & if there be in your Honours Gov^t any Persons qualified as an Engineer or Bombardier or well acquainted with the Management of the Artillery I beg you would if possible engage them in the Service, as much depends upon it. You must be apprized that a great Number of Battoes will be wanting to transport the Troops, besides these for the Train & Ordinance Stores. One of those Vessels is allowed to every five Men, those designed for this Gov^{ts} Forces are in Hand, and as the other Colonies must I conceive get theirs built here and in the Jerseys, it will hardly be possible to build so great a Number early enough, unless they send Workmen from their own Gov^{ts} to assist.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON:

Copy of a Letter wrote to the Severall Gov^{rs} engaged or concerned in the intended Expedition to C. P^t May 5th. 1755.

Sent to y^e. Gen^l ¹ May 18th. 1755.

¹ Braddock?

FROM DANIEL CLAUS¹

A. L. S.

Canajoharee May 7th 1755

HONoured SIR

I heartily congratulate y^r. Honour to the New Office & hope your Honour may administer the same with Health & Prosperity, as I am convinced your Honours Integrity & Conduct will fully satisfie the Confidence his Majesty pleas'd to put in you.

I am desired by Hendrik, Abraham, & the Rest of the Sachems of this Castle to inform your Honour with what displeasure they *must understand how*² || have heard, that || Peter the French Indian by his Long stay in the Lower Mohawks Castle, & by the Intrigues he was *influenced* || charged || wth by his Employers brought it as last so far || to pass || that several *and also* || even || Chiefs of y^e || Mohawk || Castle, resolved to go off wth him to Canada, not considering the hostilities the French many years past comitted among their People & their Bretheren the English, and *in a Manner* but *very* lately murder'd Gent-

¹ Daniel Claus was born September 13, 1727, at Bennigham, Germany, and was the son of Adam Frederick, prefect of the place. Coming to America in 1749 on an unfortunate business enterprise, he journeyed the next year to the Mohawk valley, and the year after visited that region again. Here he engaged in the study of the Iroquois language; and, acquiring proficiency in its use, he was often employed as an interpreter. He took part in the Lake George campaign, sometimes serving as a scout; and in 1761 he obtained a captain's commission. The following year he married Sir William Johnson's eldest daughter, Nancy. For a number of years he was deputy agent of Indian affairs in Canada. He acquired a tract 800 acres in extent in the neighborhood of Fort Johnson. In the expedition of St Leger to the Mohawk valley in 1777 Claus led the Canadian Indians.—*Daniel Claus's Narrative*, published by the Society of Colonial Wars in the State of New York; and William L. Stone, *Life and Times of Sir William Johnson*.

² Words in *italics* have been crossed out by Johnson and words between parallels || are inserted and in the hand of Johnson. A copy of the letter as corrected was probably sent to General Braddock.

shyagoa one of their head Men, whose death the Caghnawagies when last in the Mohawks, would have condol'd if the Friendship they pretended to renew, *wou'd have come* || came || out of a sincere heart; Besides by going *there* || to Canada || they must be suspected to incline more *for* || to || the French King, then their father the King of England, & thereby break the so firmly constructed Chain of Friendship, which ever since it was made the Mohawks kept up the Credit of preserving it bright, & now at a time, when its Strenght ought to be most depended upon, they were a going to let it *fail* || Slip ||.

Wherefore they the above mentioned Ind^s earnestly beg of your Honour to enquire into the Truth of y^e Matter & if found true, *to* || that you would || endeavour to prevent their Attempt if possible; At the same time they look'd at Peter the French Indⁿ as an employed Spy who ought to be taken up, & Secured, till *such a time when it would be* || it was || too late, to deliver his Speculations || to the French ||.

I have no more to add but am with due Respect Honoured,
Sir,

your most obedient humble Servant,

DAN CLAUS

P: S^t: Henry & Abraham ¹ Salutes your Honour & are ready to receive your Message every Moment. Some of y^e. Ind^s could not wait in y^e Castle for want of provisions, & therefore are gone to Lake Otsege in Order to fish || for their Sustenance ||.

ADDRESSED: To The Hono^{ble} William
Johnson Esq^r

&tera

at Mount Johnson

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: May 7th 1755
Mr. Clause letter
from Conajoharie

¹ King Hendrick and his brother.

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY

L. S.

*Stratford, Connecticut Colony,**May 7, 1755.*

SIR,

I am favour'd wth. your's of the 4th. Inst., wherein You observe that the Officers to be appointed for the Indians have no Assurance of Pay & that You think there was room for those Officers to doubt of Pay; They shall certainly receive y^e same, w^{ch}. the Officers of the Provincial Troops have given them; If that will not satisfy 'em, it must depend upon yourself to ascertain it; I will be answerable to You for my own Government's making good your Agreements as to it's Proportion, & can't doubt the same as to the other Governments doing the same; If You mean by those Officers having more than a bare Assurance, that they should receive some Advance Pay, I will endeavour to get some; I can't think they will be scrupulous as to insist upon any think¹ further; If You mean any thing more be pleas'd to let me know it.

As there is no Estimate of what it will cost to engage the Indians, & the Number that will be engag'd is uncertain, the Assembly of the Massachusetts Bay left y^e doing of what is necessary for that Purpose to your Discretion, & pass'd a general Vote for paying their Share of whatever that should amount to; & I will answer for their punctually performing it: In the mean time I think a Sum ought to be advanced to You for that Service, that You may not be under the Necessity of advancing your own; But if that should not be effected, I can't see the least room for You to scruple making Use of the £800 lodg'd in your hands by General Braddock; the whole End of it's being lodg'd there is to engage the Indians at this Juncture, & if that is lost by your not making that use of it, in Case You shall have no other Money in your hands for that Service, it will certainly be thought an ill-

¹ "Think" in the manuscript.

judg'd Parsimony; Besides it appears by the Minutes of the Council at Alexandria, that it is design'd that the Crown shall be reimburs'd even this £800 by the Colonies. I say not this to excuse the Colonies from paying the Expence of engaging the Indians over & above what General Braddock hath lodg'd wth. You, as I think they ought to do; But I think You ought by no means to run y^e. least Riske of hurting the King's Service wth. the Indians in our present Attempt by not employing the £800 to engage them in it, if You shall have no other Money in your hands to do it with. In the mean time, I must apprize You that upon my pressing the Assembly of New York (in a Letter to Mr. De lancey) to make Provision on their part for engaging the Indians, as also in particular for defraying the Expence of a Row Galley for Lake Champlain, he observ'd as to y^e. first to me that Gen^l Braddock had order'd £2000 into your hands for y^e. Indians, w^{ch}. I have insisted upon is a Mistake, & must desire You to let me know how that Matter is; & as to the latter, he told me there would be a Vote of his Assembly to pay their Share of your Expences; w^{ch}. is by no means satisfactory to me, & I now let him know it again.

You may depend upon my exerting my best Endeavours wth. all the other Assemblies to make Provision for y^e. special Expence of building a Row Galley, as also a proper one for engaging the Indians; & in particular for Ordnance Stores; & if it is possible for me to get You an Engineer, I will: The only Engineers we had at Cap Breton (I mean of any real Service) was the late Gunner of our Castle, & a Scholar of his, Captⁿ. Gridley¹; I must make as bad a Shift in this Respect at Niagara.

I must desire You to send me as soon as may be a Copy of the General's Power to You to draw on me for the Exigencies of the Service You are engag'd in; Your Drafts shall be answer'd, but I desire You would particularize the Articles on Acct: of w^{ch}. You draw; & I would have You in my Absence

¹ Richard Gridley, of Boston, Mass.

draw on Mr. John Erving Jun^r. of Boston whom I will order to honour Yo^r: Bills.

You may in the whole depend that Nothing in my Power shall be wanting in any Regard to render y^e. Execution of Your Command easy & successfull & to represent in a just light, the Merit of Your Service to His Majesty & his Ministers according to the high Opinion, I have of it.

I am with much Truth Sir,

Your Faithfull Humble Servant.

W SHIRLEY

MAJOR GENERAL JOHNSON

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: May 7th 1755

Gov^r. Shirleys letter

concerning the officers pay and the
Indians.

Some things Material

Sent Extracts of this to y^e. Gen^l.¹ May 18th. 1755

RESOLVE OF CONNECTICUT ASSEMBLY.

Contemporary Copy

Hartford, Connecticut, May 8, 1755

<Anno regni Regis Georgii²

At a general Assembly of the Governor and Company of His Majesty's English Colony of Connecticut in New England in America holden at Hartford in said Colony on the 2^d. Thursday of May annoque domini, 1755.

Upon the peti>tion of Phineas Lyman, Roger Wollcott jun^r. Samuel <Grey, Abraham Devenpo>rt, Esqr., and some others their associates, to the Number <of about eight hund>red & fifty, known by the name of the Susquahana<h Company> by

¹ Braddock?

² Several words illegible before the manuscript was injured by fire.

their Agents George Willis, Daniel Edwards, Samuel <Tollcott, Thomas> Seymour, and Eliphalet Dyer, representing that this Colony according to the express Limits of its royal Charter is in extent from the Naraganset Bay on the east to the South Sea on the west, and from the Sea Shore on the South, to the line of the Massachusetts province on the North That within and towards the western parts of its Limits are, and time immemorial, have been, large numbers of the Indian Nations commonly called the Six Nations, dwelling improving, and Claiming a large extent thereof, That a Certain large parcell of such their cl<aim> situate and lying on the Waters of the Susquahanah about Seventy Miles north and South, and from about ten Miles east of said Ri<ver> extending westward about two degrees of Longitude; they Said Nations finding it not necessary for their own use, have, from very valuab<le Consi>derations, been induced to relinguish and sell to said petitioner<s and th>at some well ordered plantation in so near a neighbourhood <to said> Nations might most likely be a means to cement and fix <them in> friendship with his Majesty's Subjects, and that they the said <In>dian Nations are desirous such settlement might be promoted <and> carried on as being conducive to their Interest and safety, and there<up>on praying the Consent of this Assembly, that his Majesty if it be his royal pleasure grant said Lands to the petitioners and their associates, thereon to erect and settle a Colony, for the more effectual securing said Indians in his Majestys Interest, and defence of his Majesty's Dominions in North America, with liberty for farther purchases of said Indians to said purpose as occasion may be.

Resolved by this Assembly, that they are of opinion that the peaceable and orderly erecting and carrying on some new and well regulated Colony or plantations on the Lands abovesaid, would greatly tend to fix and secure said Indian Nations in allegiance to his Majesty, and friendship with his Subjects; and accordingly hereby manifest their ready acquiescence therein, if it should be his Majestys <ro>y al pleasure to grant said

<Lands> to said petitioners, and thereon erect and Settle a new Colony <in such form, and under such regulations, as might be consistent with royal Wisdom, and also take leave humbly to recommend the said petitioners to his royal In the premises.

A true Copy of record examined.>

By <GEORGE WILLIS, Secr^y.>

INDORSED: Resolve of Gov^r and Assembly
of Connecticut 1755 — touching a
Settlement upon Susquehanna &c.

FROM THOMAS BUTLER

A. L. S.

Oswego, May 14th. 1755

SIR

Yesterday eveing thirty three french Battoes past here, being that party I wrote you of ☿ Jos: Wells. I count they were between three & foure hundred Men. I lern by an Anonida indian that a large body of french with a considerable Number of Indians Are Soon to follow and after them The Grand Army. I have in My House A Cheapowa indian that lives near To Nigra Who tells me All the forign Nations are to Assist the French. The five Nations by their talk expect they Will be called down. Atrowana & his Sons in law with Sundry others are here and Say they will all Go down if desir'd.

There is Still a Strong Notion among The Indians that the English have a mind to destroy them, if that cou'd once be put out their Heads we might have the most of them in our intrist. I hear no More of the French Priest^s: Going to Annonida, Nor of the 100 Men Going to Annodaga So hope it May only be a false report.

There is a Family of Annodagas come from Swegatia, being

dissatisfied with the French Preist there &c. and are resolv'd to
Settle again, in their Old Castle. I am Sir With Due regard
Your Most obed^t. Serv^t.

THO^s: BUTLER

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Tho^s. Butler's Letter
from Oswego rec^d the 19 May 1755.
Sent to y^e. Genr^l.
May 18th. 1755.

FROM GEORGE CROGHAN

L. S.

Fort Cumberland,¹ May the 15th 1755

SIR

I received your favour of the 23^d April some days after I
got to the Camp where I had brought all the Indians which were
under my Care I delivered your Message to Scaroooyady agree-
able to your desire and by the inclosed answer² you will See it
was received I at the same time acquainted them that you were
appointed sole manager of Indian Affairs which gave a general
satisfaction to the Indians here there's forty odd fighting Men
& Lads the Shawnesse & Delawares are not yet come in last
fall at the instigation of the French they fell upon our Settle-
ments in North Carolina where they killed and took Prisoners
Twenty odd People which makes them afraid but as the General
has promised upon their joining him that he will forget every
thing of that sort and as the Six Nations have sent to them we
expect to be joined by the most of them I should be glad to
keep up a Corrispondance with you and shall by every opper-
tunity let you know what is doing in these parts I lately received
a Letter from Mr. Franks wherein he acquaints me that you
were so kind as to inquire after my Losses which have been very

¹Fort Cumberland, on Will's creek, Md., was built by Colonel James Innes in 1754, *Writings of George Washington*, ed. Jared Sparks, 2:63 (note).

²*Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:973.

great Capt Trent¹ and myself were deeply engaged in the Indian Trade we had trusted out great quantities of Goods to the Traders the chief of them were ruined by Robberies committed on them by the French and their Indians & those which were not quite ruined when the French Army came down as well as ours for what the French and Indians had not robed us of we lost by the Indians being prevented from hunting by which means we lost all our debts. After this Coll. Washington pressed our Horses by which means a parcell of Goods & Horses we had left fell into the Enemys hands our whole losses amounts to between five and six Thousand Pounds. As I propose going out with the Army if you have any Commands please to lay them on me I expect we shall march from here in about fifteen or twenty days I am with great Esteem Sir

Your most obedient humb Serv^t.

GEO: CROGHAN

ADDRESSED: On His Majesties Service
To Coll: William Johnston
In The Mohawk Country.
Phi. 6

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Fort Cumberland May 15th. 1755.
George Croghans letter.

HUBERT MARSHALL TO JOHN M. ROSEBOOM

A. L. S.

May 15, 1755

Lieu^t John Mind^{rs}. Roseboom I Order You to go up to Your Command at ffort William, there to Leave Proper Directions with Serj^t. Alex^r McKenny to keep the remainder of Your Command in good Order & Discipline & that You give Strict Orders to the Men to Obey him & that in case any thing Extraordinary happens during Your Absence as I shall Venter to give You

¹ Captain William Trent, of Virginia.

Leave to go down to New York for the Recovery of Your Heath, that Your Serjeant should Apply to Lieu^t General Johnson for his Assistance in case the Garrison should be Attackt Given under my Hand at Fort Frederick this Fifteenth day of May 1755

HUBERT MARSHALL

To LIEUT. ROSEBOOM

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

New York 16 May 1755.

SIR

I desired Mr. Heath this forenoon to inclose you the News Papers, and the Acts of Assembly. I forwarded your Letters to New Hampshire & Rhode Island by the Post: those to Gov. Shirley and the Governor of Connecticut I sent by Mr. Oliver DeLancey who went the same Morning you did, so that Mr. Shirley must have received his before he left Hartford: We hear nothing concerning the Train yet. I believe we shall get our five Companies from Connecticut, but as Mr. DeLancey is not yet come it is not yet certain; they insisted on nominating one of the Field officers, and as Mr. Verplanck declines going, if Conn^t. appoint one, Mr. Cockroft must be the Colonel here or not go at all, unless the Assembly who are to meet the 27th. Inst. provide for a third. The Saturday before you went Mr. Shirley gave or sent a Let^r¹ to the Governor proposing these Points. That the several Assemblies should enable you to engage as many Indians as you can upon the Occasion: To erect such Forts & Places of Strength on your March as you may think necessary for securing Stores, sheltering Men & receiving the Sick & wounded. Also to enable you to build a proper Fort at the Place of your Destination, to contain a sufft Garison to resist the strongest attack that may be expected. But as the Assembly broke up that Afternoon, they were left till their next

¹ Letter.

Meeting. I just hinted this to you before your departure. Mr. Shirley, before Mr Oliver's arrival had endeavoured to prevail with the Conn^t. Men to raise 200 or 300 Men, which, upon his Encouragement, I understand Col. Schuyler¹ was to pay or engage to pay, & to go with the other 500 But the Gov^{nt}. would not hearken to it. I din'd the other day with an officer (at the Gov^{rs}.) lately from Frederick, who says the Lieutenant, I endeavour'd to describe to him as well as I could & I believe had his name then & who the General was to have sent you, march'd from thence with the Regiment he belonged to, after the General arrived at that place, If so the General has not sent or given him an Order to join you. It will not be amiss to mention it again if you send an Express to him by Land. He will not go from Wills's Creek till June, in the beginning. Orders are Come to augment those 2 Reg^{ts}. and those of Nova Scotia to 1000 each, & he has given fresh directions for Recruiting. The waggons he expected from Philadelphia I understand are ready. The officers are come for the Vessells on the Lake. I dont like these French Indians being suffered to come to Albany to hear & carry away what they can. Tom Wileman I am told was heard to say he wondered where the Forces staid, meaning ours, for he wanted to see them.

I long to hear from you. I wish you your health under the great Fatigue you must undergo at present, & the utmost Success in your Undertakings. I am Dr Sr

your most obed^t hble Servant

GW BANYAR

COL. JOHNSON

ADDRESSED: To The Hon^{ble} William Johnson Esq^r.
at Mount Johnson. To the Care of Mr.
Peter Sylvester at Albany.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: May 16th. 1755
Banyars letter.

¹ Colonel Peter Schuyler, of the "Jersey Blues."

TO JAMES DE LANCEY

Df.¹

Mount Johnson 16 May 1755

SIR

Last night I recd by an Express a Letter from Gov^r Shirley bearing date the 7 Inst from Stratford in Connecticut

He writes me concerning the Pay of the Officers to be appointed for the Indians, that if they will not be satisfied with the same Pay as the officers of the Provincial Troops are to have, it depends on me to ascertain it, and that he will be answerable for His Gov^{ts}. making good my Agreements *as to Its Proportion* & cant doubt the other Gov^{ts}. doing the same.

I have this day Answered him, that as the Duty of these officers will be more fatiguing & expensive by the extraordinary wear & tear of their Cloaths &c And that they formerly had the same pay as those in British Foot they will naturally & reasonably insist upon the same now. That I am fully satisfied meer verbal Assurances for their Pay will not be sufficient, that they will demand a more solid Satisfaction & expect to be put upon some certain footing with regard thereto. That this ought to have been already done that they might be now taking the previous Steps to assist the common Cause.

Gov^r. Shirley writes me, that the Assembly of his Province, as no Estimate had been made what it would cost to engage the Indians & what Number would be engaged was uncertain, had left the doing what was necessary for that purpose to my Discretion & *passed a General Vote, for paying their Share of whatever that should amount to* & that he will answer for their punctuality in performing it. Upon which I have wrote him

That the progress of the French amongst the Indians hath run such lengths & thrown such unfavorable Dispositions into them w^{ch}. together with the weakness of the public Influence upon them will render my Task &c. (as in Gov^r. Shirleys Letter).

¹ In handwriting of P. Wraxall.

That the £800. lodged by Gen^l Braddock in my hands &c. (vide Shirleys).

That his Assurances in behalf of his Assembly have all the weight &c. (vide Shirleys).

That I am under a necessity in this Affair to be thus Explicit &c. (vide Shirleys).

That I shall draw if that method be prescribed me &c. (vide Shirleys).

That as to the £2000. w^{ch}. Gen^l Braddock had put into my hands or rather had given me Orders to draw for on M^r. O. de Lancey £800 — or upwards &c. (vide Shirleys).

Thus Sir I have wrote to Gov^r. Shirley & by these Sentiments I shall abide & I have desired him to acquaint y^e other Gov^{ts}. with them. To you Sir I can open myself with abundant Satisfaction, for was it my own private Concern, you have given me great reason to depend upon your favour & friendship, but as it is an Affair of the most important Consequence to the Welfare & Security of these Colonies in general & particularly so of this I assure myself neither the Influence of your public Station nor that of your private Character will lie dormant on this critical Juncture, & that by your Exertion together with the evident Reasons & absolute necessity of it, a certain Sume will be ordered by this Colony & that I shall receive directions after what manner & upon whom I shall draw for our part of the Expences w^{ch}. this important article of the public Service to w^{ch}. I am appointed will require. Upon this head I beg you will favor me with your Instructions without any avoidable delays, that I may know upon what ground I stand & be enabled to fulfill that essential part of the general Plan agreed upon by the Council at Alexandria the securing & maintaining the Fidelity & assistance of the 6 united Nations to the British Interest.

And now Sir I must apply to you a little on my own behalf. I have as you know accepted the Command of the Forces destined towards Crown Point, & that it was pressed upon me without any Schemes or Sollicitations of mine to obtain it, that I was & am

still of opinion that it is an Undertaking equal to greater abilities than I claim to my share. My unfeigned Zeal & the utmost of my Capacity shall be employed to render it Successful, I seek I desire no private Emolument to my fortune by the Command but surely Sir the public should take Care & fix a reasonable Establishment for me, of w^{ch}. I see no Footsteps nor have any Intimations concerning it, I have hinted this Article to Gov^r. Shirley & I beg you will please to give me some Informations on this Head & if this Colony will make any Provision towards this Establishment.

[I shall write to the Gov^{rs}. of Connecticut, Rhode Island & New Hampshire upon the foregoing Subjects.¹]

I have already had a Conference with the two Mohock Castles &c. (vide Shirleys).

Tho I did send a Message on my return hither thro the Six Nations &c: (vide Shirleys)

I am most respectfully Sir

Your Honours Most Obed^t & Affec^t hum serv^t

INDORSED BY WRAXALL: Copys of my Letters to Gov^r. Shirley & Gov^r. DeLancey 16 May 1755

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Sent Extracts of them
to the Genr^l.
May 18th. 1755

MEMORANDUMS TO THE SEVERAL GOVERNMENTS

Draft corrected by Johnson

To write to the several Governments desiring they will inform me from time to time how they go on in those parts of the expedition they are concerned in

That as fast as the Companys are compleated they *[should]* may be sent to Albany *[where they might be disciplin'd and made fit for service.]* to receive further Ord^{rs}

¹ Material in italics and brackets erased in original manuscript.

That a proper person [*should*] be appointed as commissary in each Province to Muster the Co^s and order'd not to pass a man unfit for service

That I may be impow'd to review the Men of each Colony and discharge such as I may find unfit for the service also.

That all the provisions and War like stores be sent with all imaginable dispatch to Albany [*and lodg'd there or any where else more convenient*] and that commissarys for the provisions and store keepers for the ordnance be sent also to provide proper places to receive them.

That a proper Person be immediately appointed to receive and take care of the Battoes with the necessary Setting Poles and Paddles and to be accountable for them.

That I may be impow'd by the several Provinces that furnish Troops to allow the Men Six pence Stirling a day when they work at any kind of Fortification

As The enemy beyond all doubt have had full, and ample accounts of the intended expedition to Crown Point, it is necessary that all the men which were at first intended by the Colonies for that Service, should go there, and that there be a large addition to the demand given in of war like stores, and Eight hundred Barrells of powder will be as little as can be sent with shott in proportion.

I find by one part of your instructions you expect I should march to Crown point as soon as a number of men get to Albany, I must beg leave to say I think it of much more consequence to order a Sufficient Number to go before to make the roads passable & then march with the rest & every thing necessary for that service, and not depend upon their being sent after me.

To avoid disputes with the several governments concern'd in this affair I cannot help thinking that my instructions should be drawn out and laid before the several governors for their concurrence.

P. S. to Gov^r Shirley

I viewed the Cannon & field Pieces designed for me [*as soon*

as I got to Albany] & find every thing belonging to them rotten, & unfit for Service & as it will take up Some time to have New Carriages made also travelling Carriages &ca Workmen Should be instantly employed to make them and the Battoes for the Artillery, Ordnance Stores &ca. Upon this head I wrote also to Mr Delancey

There are a few shells for the Mortar at Albany but they are broke & good for nothing, therefore others should be provided.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: May 16th. 1755
 Memorandums
 to Send to the different
 Govr^{ts}. concerned in
 the intended Expedition

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Df. S.*¹

Mount Johnson, 16 May, 1755.

SIR

Your favour of the 7. Inst came last night to my hand.

The Indian officers will doubtless & with reason request more pay than those of the Provincial Troops: The Service will be severe & much more fatiguing & by the wear & tear of their Cloaths be more expesive to them.

In the last Expedition their pay was equal to that of the British Foot, & as I propose to employ the same Persons again, they will [*undoubtedly*²] naturally & reasonably insist upon their former Pay.

I am fully satisfied that meer verbal Assurances for their Pay will not [*suffice*] be sufficient, that they will demand a more solid Satisfaction & this ought to have been already done that they might expect to be put upon a certain footing with regard thereto.

¹ Body of letter in handwriting of P. W^raxall.

² Words in italics and within brackets are erased in the manuscript.

It is impossible for me with any tollerable exactness to make an Estimate of the Expences w^{ch} may arise from my Attempts to engage & maintain the Six Nations & their Allies in the British Interest.

The progress of the French among them hath run such lengths & thrown such unfavorable Dispositions into them towards us, w^{ch} together with the weakness of the public Influence of this Colony [*toward*] upon them, will render my Task not only very [*Arduous*] Difficult but even [*hazardous*] precarious, hence to bring them back to their former Attachments, to counter work the many Artifices & expensive Bribery of the French & to fix upon them a hearty Zeal towards us, [*must*] does not only [*be attended with*] call for my utmost Diligence, require the whole Force of my Influence & Abilities, but unavoidably [*be attended require*] demand a considerable Sum of money. The £800 lodged by General Braddock in my hands was appropriated & must be made use of for Presents when they meet here & at Oswego in order for my laying the Foundation of all our future Success with them. If by that meeting I should happily engage them so far in the Interest of the British Colonies as to overset the Measures & disappoint the Expectations of the French You well know Sir that they will imediately throw themselves & their Families upon me for their maintenance for all their necessary wants & expect to be indulged with constant little Presents, this from the Nature of Indians cannot be avoided & must be complied with. To defray these Expences Funds [*must*] should be fixt [*upon?*] & the several Colonies who have engaged themselves in this important Affair, [*must*] Authorise me to draw upon them in such proportion as they may settle among themselves. I am convinced the Gov^t. at home & I persuade myself our Colonies here do not, cannot with any shadow of reason suppose I am either able or willing to advance [*money*] the expences on this Occasion out of my own private Fortune. For me therefore to wait the future discussions of Colony proportions, to risque my Fortune upon [*the*] a repayment from the respective Assemblies,

is a dependance w^{ch} neither my Judgment nor my Experience will suffer me to trust to.

Your Excellencys Assurances in behalf of y^r. Assembly have all the weight with me w^{ch} you or they can reasonably expect, & I would by no means be thought to doubt either y^r sincerity or their [*Honor*] public spirit on this point, but you & they Sir must be sensible that a proportion unascertained & a Fund yet to be established, may be a future Embarrasment not only to me but to themselves.

I am Sir under a necessity in this affair to be thus explicit & I must beg the favour of your Excellency with all possible Expedition to give me [*a satisfactory suitable*] some possitive Answer in behalf of your [*Genl*] Colony. [*on these very necessary points*] I shall forthwith write to the same purpose to the Gov^rs of the other Colonies concerned.

I shall draw if that method be [*fixt upon*] prescribed me, on the respective Colonies in the proportion they agree upon amongst themselves, & render the most exact Acc^t. how the monies are Issued w^h the nature of the Service will admit of, be as frugal as [*as good Prudence will permit*] I prudently can, & be [*ready*] willing to Attest the Truth & uprightness of my Accounts.

As to the £2000 w^h M^r. Delancey told you Gen^l. Braddock had put into my hands, or rather w^h is the Case had given me orders to draw for on M^r. O. deLancey, £800 or upwards out of that Sum is already laid out in a present for the 6 Nations when they meet me here, & from the remainder I am now daily expending in previous measures & shall continue to make use of it as Occasion may. [*require*] call for, but this Sum will fall very short of the Services agreed upon & required, & a further Provision from the Colonies will be absolutely necessary & that put upon a Detirminate footing [*with the* ?] as soon as possible.

Herewith agreeable to your Excellencys desire I send you a Copy of General Braddocks powers to me in relation to drawing on [*him*] you.

I have already had a conference with the Two Mohowk

Castles¹ & talked privately with their Sachems. They discover good Inclinations & I am in hopes that they will not only come into our Views themselves but be the means of Influencing others. I am now sending out Invitations to the other Nations to meet me here as soon as possible & I hope I shall see them here in about 3 weeks.

Tho I did send a Message on my return hither thro the Six Nations to apprise them of the March'g of the Troops to the reinforcement of Oswego, yet I find it will be quite necessary to send forward an Interpr^r. with a Speech & a Belt to them on this Occasion, as I [*find by*] learn from some Trusty Ind^s whom I can depend upon, that notwithstanding, the Message I have already sent, [*that*] the French Emissaries will blow such Poison into their Ears upon the March^s of these Troops, as may [*otherwise be*] if not removed of ill Consequence.

I am extreemly obliged to Y^r Excell^y for Y^r assurances of giving me Y^r Friendly Influence & support in the Command you have honoured me with, and my dependance hereon has been & will be one of my chief [*Supports*] Resources & animates me with hopes & Alacrity in an Undertaking for w^{ch} I confess & feel my self not so equal as I could wish [*myself*] to be. Upon this head I must beg leave to mention to you as my Friend that hitherto the Colonies have made no Provision to support me in that distinguishing Character to w^{ch} y^r. Favour & Friendship have been pleased to promote me. As I assure you I neither seek nor desire any Emolument to my private Fortune thereby, so I hope you & they will judge it unreasonable for me to be left without a necessary & proper Establishment.

I am with the utmost respect & with unfeigned Gratitude, Sir,

Your Excellencys

Most Obed^t. & obliged hum serv^t

W JOHNSON

¹At Fort Hunter, Montgomery county, and Indian Castle, Herkimer county.

Upon Second thought it appears to me that it will be more proper & effectual for Y^r. Excell^y to acquaint the several Gov^{rs} with such of this Letter as you will think necessary [*and so add your Sentiments in order to render them effectual*] & therefore I shall decline writing to them except to Mr DeLancy.

EXAMINATION OF JEAN SILVESTRE AND WIFE¹

Mount Johnson 16 May 1755

Mons^r. Silvester & his Wife arrived at Maj^r. General Johnsons this Evening in a Battoe from Oswego & bro^t. the Gen^l. a Letter from Mr. Stoddard acquainting him that Fire & various Misfortunes had bro^t. the s^d. Silvester from Canada & that he was come to put himself under the protection of the English.

He was examined by the Gen^l. in the presence of Cap^t. Broadstreet who interpreted & of Peter Wraxall Esq^r. Secretary for Indian Affairs &c.

That he was born in Nantes, has lived ab^t. 9 years in Montreal & left it the 26 of last Month.

That he came away in a Canoe with some Cagnawaga Indians whom he hired to bring him his Wife & Effects off. That 7 days before his Departure 900 Men set off in 3 divisions for the Ohio under the Command of Cap^t. Bojeau 100 of w^{ch} are regular Troops. That in the Month of Febr^y. last 50 Artillery Men went for the Ohio by Land.

Q. If they had received any late Accounts from Europe or any Ships arrived from thence?

A. That they had not nor any Reports of Hostillities with the English & that excepting the disputes upon the Ohio they are all there in a profound Tranquility.

Q. If they had heard of the Arrival of Gen^l. Braddock & the Troops from England?

¹ Copy sent to Governor De Lancey; in handwriting of P. Wraxall. See Johnson to Braddock, May 17, 1755.

A. That he had heard of no such Account. That upon a Report from the Indians that the English had some Designs upon Crown Point, they had last October sent 300. regular Troops to reinforce that Garrison w^{ch}. still remain there.

Q. If the said Fort was to be attacked by the English what Force the French would send to its relief?

A. That besides the above reinforcement they could in 6 weeks time bring there 1000 Men & 400 Indians.

Q. What Cannon they have mounted there?

A. In all 38 pieces of 4. 6. & 12 ll

Q. If the Fort is generally well supplied with Ammunition & Provisions?

A. That he cannot positively say, but that the Kings Stores at Montreal are always well supplied with both & may be transported from thence with a favourable Wind in 48 hours with a Schooner of 60 Tons w^{ch}. they keep on the Lake for that purpose.

Q. If a new Gov^r. is expected this Summer?

A. Yes, Mons^r. Cavigniol ¹ a Canadian who was formerly a Gov^r. at the Missipi.

He says the Royal Establishment of Troops is generally & that at present they do not exceed 2000 — that these are dispersed thro the several Garrisons from Quebec to the Ohio. That they neither have heard nor dont seem to be apprehensive of any Designs of the English, but only those Disputes w^{ch}. subsist ab^t. the Ohio.

N. B. There are French Indians every day almost, trading at Albany & upon the arrival of Cap^t Broadstreet^s & the other Company their marching thence for Schenectady, one Tom Wildman an Indian imediately set out for Crown Point & when he was got about 6 or 7 miles from the Town got a Horse & was seen galloping away towards Canada with the utmost Alertness.

Excuse Haste, being surrounded by Indians &ca.²

¹Vaudreuil-Cavagnal, Pierre François de Rigaud, marquis.

²This sentence is written by Johnson.

The following particulars I have sent to Gov^r. Shirley and I beg leave to recommend them to your Honour's Consideration & Interposition.

1. That as fast as the Companys are compleated they may be sent to Albany to receive further orders.

2. That the Commissary or Commissarys of the Musters in each Province be ordered not to pass any Man unfit for Service.

3. That all the Provisions & Warlike Stores be sent with the utmost Dispatch to Albany & that Commissarys be appointed to provide proper plans to receive them.

4. That a proper Person be immediately appointed to receive & take care of the Battoes with the necessary Setting Poles & Paddles & to be accountable for them.

5. That I may be empowered by the several Provinces that furnish Troops, to allow the Men 6d Sterling ^{per} day, when they work at any kind of fortifications.

6. That as the Enemy beyond all doubt have by this time had full & ample Accounts of the intended Expedition to Crown Point it is necessary that the full number of Forces w^{ch} were at first intended & agreed upon, should go there, and that there be a large Addition to the demand given in of Warlike Stores, 800 Barrells of Powder will be as little as can be sent, with Shot in proportion.

7. I have viewed the Cannon & Field pieces designed for my Command, & I find every thing belonging to them rotten, & unfit for Service, & as it will take up some time to have new Carriages made also travelling Carriages &c. Workmen should be instantly employed to make them, also the Battoes for the Artillery Stores &c. There are a few shells here for the Mortar but they are broke & good for nothing, therefore others should be provided.

INDORSED: 16 May 1755

Exam of Sylvestre & Copy
particulars sent to Gov Shirley.

ANOTHER COPY OF EXAMINATION

Another copy of this examination, written by Wraxall, contains in addition to the foregoing matter the following questions and answers:

Q. What were his motives for Leaving Canada.

A. That having sustained considerable Losses last Summer by the fire at Montreal, he was reduced to the necessity of applying to the Gov^r. for one Canoe to go up to Missillimack to trade with the Indians. who told that his Canoe & effects must go to the Ohio in order to draw the Indians that way, upon w^{ch}. he replied that what little he had left he did not care to risque it in a Country then in dispute between the two Crowns, the Gov^r then answered he had no Licenses to give. hereupon he fixt his Resolution to turn what Effects he had into Money & Pelterye & withdraw from the Country with his Wife as soon as he could find an Opportunity & in consequence thereof engaged the above Ind^s. to bring him off.

Q. If he knows whether the French have lately made any new works in or about Crown Point

A. None.

That about 350 yards from the Fort there is a rising piece of Ground much higher than y^e Fort.

Q. At what part of the Fort they are most apprehensive of being attacked

A. From the aforesaid rising Ground. that the River opposite the Fort is very rapid & shallow & their Vessell can go no further. That the part of the Fort opposite to the rising Ground is built upon a loose Sandy Soil whence they were under a necessity to dig their Ditch 10 Foot from the Wall & is abt. 15 foot deep & abt. 20 wide. [¹] in attack the Indians would not [] but anoy the Beseigers in their Rear

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Sent to y^e. Genr^{ls}. May 18th. 1755

¹ One or two lines missing.

TO EDWARD BRADDOCK

Df.¹Mt. Johnson 17th May, 1755

SIR

I came home but this day Sennight & shall now give your Excellency the most early & full Intelligence in my power.

I have had a meeting with the Mohock Nation of both Castles, what passed at this Conference I send you herewith. By the private Conversation I had with some of their most leading Sachems to whom I opened in a general way the Measures proposed I found they seemed pleased with them, & told me that if the other Nations would join they did not doubt but theirs would readily concur.

Yesterday I dispatched an Interpreter to join the Provincial One who is amongst the upper Nations distributing some Indian Corn w^{ch} was sent them at their earnest request by this Province. He carries a Belt of Wampum from me to invite the said Nations & their Friends to a Conferance here & to receive the Present from His Majesty. [*I have put the Interpreters on their Guard against any ill impressions w^{ch}. the French Emissaries amongst them may have or will suggest to prevent their coming down.*²] I hope to see them down here in about three Weeks when I shall govern myself by y^r. Excellencys Instructions & deliver y^r. Speech to them.

Immediately upon my coming home I dispatched a String of Wampum thro the Six Nations to apprize them that a Reinforcement was marching to Oswego, but as there are three compleat Companys³ now on their March thither, some of the Mohock Sachems advised me to send a Belt of Wampum with a special Messenger to prevent their being alarmed at so unusual a Number

¹ In handwriting of P. W^raxall.

² Erased in original manuscript.

³ Two companies of Sir William Pepperrell's regiment and an independent company of New York, *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.* 6:956.

of Soldiers marching thro their Country, besides as I doubt not the French will endeavour to blow up a Jealousy amongst them upon this Occasion & therefore to prevent any ill consequences I have with my Belt of Invitation sent another upon this Occasion with proper Instructions to the Interpreter thereupon.

I take the Liberty to send Your Excellency herewith some Extracts from my Answer to a letter I recd from Gov^r. Shir the 15 Inst as y^o. will thereby see I have warmly pressed some fixt Provision from the Colonies for Indian affairs, & they also contain some of my Sentiments in relation to money matters when subject to the Alterations of Provincial Proportions w^{ch} I thought it my Duty to make known to y^r Ex. I have wrote Gov^r. DeLancey to the same purpose & desired M^r Shirley to communicate what I have wrote him on this Subject to the Gov^{ts}. of Connecticut Rhode Island & New Hampshire.

Yesterday I received a Second Letter from M^r. Shirley in w^{ch} he writes me, that the several Gov^{rs}. are to call upon their Assemblies to refund to the Crown the £2000 advanced by y^r Excell^y. & that he is satisfied no other Fund will be provided by the Colonies for Indian affairs. that he will be ready to answer my Drafts for what you have empowered me to draw on him.

Matters standing thus & as I find the Colonies will make no provision for Inⁿ. affairs I beg leave to assure Your Excellency that with regard to all the Indian Expences I shall act with the utmost Frugality, avoid every unnecessary Expence, keep as exact Acc^{ts}. as so diffusive a Service will permit & render an Acc^t. of the whole with that Integrity w^{ch} the Trust reposed in me deserves.

If the Six Nations should be bro^t. to Action in Conjunction with us they will expect not only a Provision for such as go but an Allowance to support all their Aged Men their Women & Children whom they leave behind this must be promised & fulfilled to them & from the Moment they do engage themselves they will throw the Charge of their Support upon us their Bretheren who have called them to their Assistance. They are

a begging & insatiable set of People & expect to be denied nothing they ask for, & tho a proper Moderation must be used towards them in these Matters, yet a delicate Conduct is necessary till they have heartily entered into Hostilities against the French. They are fully possessed of their own Consequence & the eagerness of the French to debauch them from us is such as they would stick at no Expence to compass & this the Indians well know & often repeat.

Hence you will perceive Sir, that to produce the desired & intended Effects with regard to these Indians a considerable Sum of Money will be necessary. If they should be bro^t actually to engage themselves with us against the Common Enemy & the Colonies fulfill their Engagements with Dispatch & Spirit, I am in hopes the great Work in hand will be speedily & successfully finished. Whether the Six Nations can by any Measures be bro^t. into Hostilities against the French, is in my Opinion very doubtful. But I think & hope that they may be kept within a strict Neutrality with proper Managm^t. & sufficient Funds. Whichever of these may be the Case it shall be my part & I fear not succeeding in it, to oblige them to require all their numerous Allies & Dependants to follow their Example or be declared their Enemies. This at all Events will cut off the chief Resource upon w^{ch}. the French depend for supporting their Encroachments & warding off the impending chastisement for their insulting Cruelties & Treachery towards his Majesties Subjects in these parts.

But Sir I cannot avoid expressing to you my Uneasy Apprehensions that the Colonies who have engaged themselves to forward & support the Attack w^{ch} I am honoured with the Command of will not act with that Vigorous & generous Spirit so very necessary towards its Success in particular & that of the Common Cause in general I am truly sensible of my own Inability to be at the head of this undertaking, & I am afraid I shall have but few with me to assist & strengthen my Incapacity. None that can be called an Engineer, their Artillery in bad order & no

Carriages yet provided, their Shells not fit for Service, No Man of Military Experience that I hear of amongst them. The 500 Men from Jersey under Col. Schuyler are I understand to go to Niagara, not a Company yet marching this way that I hear of, no List of officers appointed yet sent me nor have I any Account of what progress they are making.

I assure Your Excellency I have an unfeigned Zeal to serve my Country, but I dread those Delays & those Provincial Disputes about Quotas w^{ch} I know to be so fatal to all Military Undertakings & when the general Interest is too liable to be broke in upon by an ill judged parsimonious & partial Spirit.

Tho I disclaim & detest the least View to the Emolument of my own Private Fortune by this Command, yet I believe your Excellency whom I look upon to be one of the most disinterested of Men will think Some Establishment ought to be fixt upon by the Colonies for supporting my Expences on this Occasion & yet it hath not been even mentioned to me nor do I know of any such Provision Either to me.

I hope your Excellency will pardon my taking up so much of your time, but as the Oppertunities of writing to you will be seldom & the Matters I have touched upon appear to me of an Importance worthy of some Attention, & are connected with y^r Ex^s. Success, I have taken the Liberty to deliver my Sentiments to you with an unconstrained Freedom as I have a very high Opinion of your Merits & a real Veneration for y^r Character.

Herewith I send your Excellency a piece of Intelligence given me by some Onondaga Indians who lately came from Canada. Also Extract of a Letter from M^r. Butler now trading at Oswego,¹ and the Examination of Mons^r Silvestre² who with his Wife fled from Canada last April & is come to put himself under the Protection of the English Gov^t. While I was at New York I communicated to Gov^r DeLancey a Letter I rec^d from Oswego w^{ch} he told me he sent y^r. Excell^y a Copy of.

¹ See Thomas Butler to Johnson, May 14, 1755.

² See Examination of Jean Silvestre, May 16, 1755.

I send this Dispatch by Mr Butler¹ whom I have appointed a Lieu^t. over the Indians, these are Young Indian Warriors of the Mohawk Nation who go with him to pay their Duty to y^r. Excellency & to be his Guide & safeguard. I beg leave to recommend them to y^r hon^{rs}. particular Notice as they are trusty to the British Interest & the Mohawk Nation at the head of the Confederacy. The Sachems desired me write to y^r Excellency not to press these Young Men to stay for that till all the 6 Nations had met it would raise a Jealousy in the others who would be displeased the Mohocks should consent to such a step without the general Concurrence.

The Mohocks have already intimated to me that if the Nations should join in the measures proposed they will expect to be under my imediate Care & Direction, however I hope to influence some of them & their Allies to join & accompany y^r Excellency.

Four days ago I dispatched some Indian Spies to Cadaraqui, When they return I shall transmit to y^r. Excellency their Intelligence; tomorrow I shall send some others with some white Men to Crown Point.

I^s most Sincerely & fervently wish y^r. Excellency every thing that is Wishworthy, and am wth. the Utmost respect, S^r.

Y^r. Excellcy^s. Most obliged & Most Humble Serv^t

GENERAL BRADDOCK

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: May the 17th. 1755
 Coppy of my letter
 to Gener^l. Braddock
 & Lieu^t. Jⁿ. Butler &
 Some Indians.

¹ John Butler.

² Refers to inclosed letter of the 16th to Shirley.

³ End of letter in handwriting of Johnson.

MEMORANDUM

Inclosed in Johnson to General Braddock, May 17, 1755.

Quebec	300 hommes
Trois riviere	120
Montreal	400
Lagalette	40
St Jean	50
La Pointe	300
Cataraqueis	100
Niagara	300
Labelle riviere	300
Torontan	50
Le Detroit	140
MichemaKina ¹	50

2150

INDORSED BY JOHNSON:

An Acc^t of the Regular Troops In Canada given me by Mr.
Jean Silvestre May 17th. 1755.

Sent to Gen^l. Braddock

May 18th, 1755

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

Monday 19 May 1755

SIR

In my last I acquainted you that the Assembly were to meet the 27th. and with the Substance of what Gov^r. Shirley had desired our Gov^r. to recommend to the Assembly on the day & just before they broke up viz. to enable you to engage Indians — build necessary Forts on your March for receiving Stores, Men, Sick & Wounded — and to build a Vessell on the Lake Champlain. And just hinted if you wrote to the General to put him

¹ Michilimackinac.

again in mind of the Lieut^t. he was to send you. All w^{ch}. I've briefly mentioned, least my Letter should miscarry; it was accompanied with the Acts & News Papers.

On Saturday Mr. Oliver DeLancey arrived from Conn^t. where he was only able to get leave for raising 300 Men.¹ They insist too on appointing a Major, which the Governor consents to. Mr. Shirley as Oliver says, did what he could to prevent our getting any Men, and so far succeeded, as to prevent our obtaining the whole 5 Comp^s. the two remaining Warrants, were granted to Isaac Cursen, of W^t. Chester County and one Owen of Brookhaven in Suffolk County: You'l not omit acquainting the Governor how the Levies go on, & with whatever you think necessary to forward the Service: As he is pretty busy & likely to continue so, he has directed me to let you know every thing that passes that I think material. The Conn^t. Assembly insist on appointing the 2^d officer, but were not as I understand able to settle that Point with Mr. Shirley before he left them — Our Gov^r. thinks it is their Right, and as we raise the next greatest Number, that he should nominate the third officer. As the Massachusets have already appointed the Comm^{dr}. in chief. Our Batoes will be all finish'd this or the beginning of next Week — I hear there's a Gentleman from Rhode Island here, to build for that Government. Conn^t. are building theirs of diff^t. Sizes that they may put them in Nests & send 'em in their Provision Vessells, their longest is 22 foot long, but are wider than ours. Oliver says they have an Engineer in Conn^t. who is to go on the Service.

I hardly think you have allowed Cannon enough in the Estimate, nor indeed Powder enough. If you succeed are the Canon you propose to carry suff^t. to defend the Place, as you may be Sure they'l deprive you of theirs, either by Capitulation, or rendering 'em unservicable. Again if you are to build Forts or Storehouses in your way, must you not have Cannon of a small

¹Connecticut furnished three of the eight companies which made up the New York regiment.

Bore to leave in them; and will it not be much easier & save a great deal of Expence to carry with you now all you may probably want? If you find them retard your March, those can be left which you think least necessary. I take the Liberty to give these Hints, that if you think proper you may apply to the Governor for some small Cannon, of which there are enough here in our Blockhouses useless, and if we should be attacked there are enough in the hands of private Persons. I took occasion to mention one day at the Gov^{rs} when Col. Roberts was there, that I thought you'l not have Cannon enough, I mean 18 pdrs. and ask'd the Col: how many were intended for that Attack when he commanded at Albany, he said, besides the six now there they were to have had 8 more of the same Size, & seem'd to wonder no more than six were destin'd now for that use. The Governor said, six were enough, & more would only retard your March. It may be so, but I am sure it is better to go well provided with an Article so essential, than to want them when there. We have two Brass 18 ll^{rs}. one abt. half the weight of the Iron, & the other about $\frac{2}{3}$ the light one Mr. Shirley wants, but the Council in an Opinion they gave said they thought 'em too heavy for him. However Mr. W. Alexander¹ says now he must have them both, & the other two brass 12 pdrs. w^{ch}. are heavy, and has wrote to Mr. Shirley to send some 24 ll in lieu of them. I told you before the Council had agreed to his having the 4 light brass 12 ll You see how well Gov^r. Shirley wants to be provided, as he applyed for all the 7. If you think those 2 brass 18 ll necessary and will apply for 'em, I believe the Gov^r. will spare them for that, rather than the other Service.

We dont know yet whether Mr. Dinwiddie will spare us Arms. However if you wait for any thing it will be the Train I judge. Think to order an Acc^t. to be taken of the Ball & Cannon utensils there, that you may know what is wanted. Will not the proper Carriages for the Cannon be too long delayed.

¹William Alexander, secretary to Governor Shirley; later known as Lord Stirling, a major general of the Continental army.

Both small and great Cannon should in my humble opinion be carried on such Carriages as we saw at Alexandria, which consist of two parts, one is the Common Trail or Gun Carriage, at the End of w^{ch}. there is another fix'd with 2 wheels, with a shaft before it, so that together it is a 4 wheeld Carriage, The great Convenience of carrying them this way, is, that by taking off the hinder Carriages, the Guns are fit for use immediately, being then mounted on their proper Carriages.

If you knew who were your Engineers, they should be employed as soon as possible in adding to your list what you have omitted, which are many things I dare say tho trifles, and in getting every thing together as soon as possible. The Composition for Fuzes and Grenadoes is not mentioned I think; nor the Gunners, nor Bombardiers Instruments I mean such as they use in pointing Cannon and Mortars by, which no doubt they will think of. The Fuzes for the Bombs shod be prepared before used, some time. In short I wish you had all the proper officers under you, to get every thing in readiness. Pray send me a Copy of your Commission from the General, and of that from Mr. Shirley, if you've no Objection to it. As far as I can judge, all the Gov^{rs}. will give you such a Commission, and agree in the Instructions you have from Mr. Shirley or in such other Form as may be approved of. Our Gov^r. has Mr. Shirley's Instructions sent him; but not your Commission. He is determined to give you a Commission. he has no objection to your Instructions but that instead of following *such other Instructions as you may receive from Mr. Shirley*, which Mr. DeLancey says is putting the intire Direction of all the Troops under him, It must be *to act (in such Matters as your Instructions are silent in) by advice of a Council of War*. There will I apprehend be no difficulty relating to this affair. I cant tell when any Sloop will go, if I think of anything further before the next Vessell sails, I shall write again. You see by the Papers the Boston Stores are arrived, and that they have taken a Storeship from Louisburgh to St. John's, this is a lucky Accident and will make the

New Englandmen go on with greater Confidence of Success. If I can in any thing be of Service to the Cause, point it out, I beg you, and you may depend that nothing in my Power shall be wanting. I have the success of it much at heart not only from publick Motives but that I wish well to every thing in which you are deeply concerned. The Eyes of all will be upon you and they ground their Expectations of Success much upon you as the Commanding officer, not only from your personal Activity and Spirit &c. but from the assistance they rely on your being able to obtain from our Indians as to which I hope to hear from you soon. I am Sr.

Your m^t. obed^t hble Servant

GW BANYAR

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: May 19th. 1755

Letter from M^r. Banyar

TO ROBERT ORME

*Df. S.*¹

M^t. Johnson May 19th 1755

DEAR SIR

I should not only think myself ungrateful, but I should mortify my own Inclinations, If I were to neglect this Oppertunity of assuring you that your cordial politeness to me at Alexandria hath fixed on me a sincere Esteem for you & a warm Desire of manifesting it on every Occasion in my power.

You will see I have wrote the General a long Letter & sent him a large Packet tis not my Disposition to prolixity that led me to offer him so much Interruption when he hath probably but little time to spare. The Subjects appeared to me of an Importance worthy his Attention & nearly connected with his Success.

In money matters I know the Assemblys on this Cont^t. & particularly ones to the Northward, are not generously disposed

¹ In handwriting of P. Wraxall.

& that when the Subjects are not to be conducted by or terminate in the private advantage of some of their own Body or Dependants they are at best prone to such a backwardness & distrust, as often not only retards but Disappoints the public Service. If they should refund the £2000, my dependence must be on the Crown for future Funds, it will be necessary therefore in my humble Opinion to prepare the administration at home for it, that they may take such Measures to support me hereafter in my Managment of Indian affairs as may enable me to retain their Attachment, & apply it to extend & Secure the British Interest in America. You will see by my Speech to the Mohocks, & I shall repeat it to the Confederate Nations when they meet me in a Body, that I tell them I am planted as their Shelter by so powerful a hand that my Roots are fixed firm & deep &c. Now should I hereafter want a certain Fund to support my Managment or by a precarious fettered Dependence upon American Assemblys be obliged to stop or relinquish for want of Money, it will be Attended with very fatal Consequences & give a mortal Wound to all my Influence amongst them, for what I tell them they will depend upon & never forgive their being deceived.

My whole time is now, & will be in the Course of my Managment devoted to this Service & I have sacrificed all other Business to it. Prudence obliges me therefore to expect that some Equivalent Appointment be made me for it, herein I confide in the Justice of the Crown & I hope the General will not forget to put the Administration in mind of it.

What relates to the Expedition I am to Command you will see my Intimations to the General. I will only add, that I dread Confusion, want of Money, & that my hands will be too much tied up. Provincial Quotas will I foresee occasion an argumentative War, and I dread will retard if not destroy our Success. Gov^r. Shirleys Attack is happily not upon Provincial Funds, & I hope therefore it will be carried on with Vigor & Success. Certain I am of Opinion that General Braddocks

Glory & very probably the safety of his Forces will very much depend upon these Diversions being carried on with Spirit & Dispatch; Certain I am that if the Indians should find We Bully, & threaten without Executing our Just Vengeance upon the French, & make good that Superiority we Boast, & w^{ch} I shall I hope bring them to believe & expect, We shall not have an Indian upon the Continent left in our Interest, I hope & wish the General will therefore Animate the Colonies by His Authority & by his advice & guard them against those Evils I have mentioned, & such others, as may Occur to him.

I have secured some little Curiosities for you & I shall look out for more. May your Health be perfectly established, & may every Species of Felicity attend you I am with unfeigned Esteem, My Dear Sir,

Yrs. &ca

W. J.

Mount Johnson 19 May 1755

Please to present my Compliments to Cap^t. Morris¹ & Mr. Shirley.² My time would not permit me the pleasure of writing them. Mr. Wraxall will be necessary to me; I suppose the General will give me Liberty to keep him.

CAPT^N. ORME, Aid Du Camp

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: May the 19th. 1755

Coppy of a letter to

Captⁿ. Orme

⌘ Lieu^t. Jⁿ. Butler

¹ Captain Roger Morris, aide to General Braddock.

² William Shirley, son of the general, was Braddock's secretary. He was killed in the battle of Monongahela.

TO GOLDSBROW BANYAR

*A. Df. S.**M^t. Johnson May 20th. 1755*

DEAR SIR

Since my arrival here, no Man living has had so much trouble, & Hurry, which alone must plead my excuse for not writing you Sooner. I can now only tell you that I have had a Meeting of Both Mohawk Castles at my House, at which they Signified the greatest Satisfaction on my being appointed Sole Manager, and Director of their affairs. In private conversation wth. some of their Cheifs to Whom I opened in a general Way the Measures proposed, I found that they Seem'd not altogether averse to them but gave me reason to think that if the other Nations would Join, theirs would readily concur. be that as it will, I doubt not of their Joining me wherever I go. but they have declared they would be under my Care, & protection only. I have Sent two Interpreters to call the Six Nations down to a meeting at my House, w^h. I expect will be in about three Weeks time, unless they are poisoned now by the French, who will make a Handle of this Reinforcement Sent to Oswego. I was obliged to Send a Second belt of Wampum by Clement to Ondaga, to Settle the Indians, & prevent any disputes between them, & the Companys going up — upon an intimation from Some of their leading Men that there was a great murmuring amongst them, on seeing such an unusual Number of armed Men marching through their Country. I have sent another Interpreter to Call all the Indians living along y^e. Susquahanah to y^e. general Meeting. two days ago I dispatched Lieut. John Butler with a party of Indians to the General wth. a large Packet, with my Sentiments on the present Scituation of affairs, as well as with all the Intelligence I have rec^d. since I came home, which I Judged Material for him to know, and indeed nearly connected with his Success. I have Sent a Couple of Indian Spys to Cadaraghqui Fort a Week ago where they Can learn what Forces have passed there for Ohio, &^{ca}. & what is now doing there. I have yesterday

Sent out 3 Indians and a Couple of White Men with a good Spy glass to See w^t. they are about at Crown Point, and learn their Numbers &^{ca}.— not a word Can I hear of the Forces raising or to be raised in y^e. other Governments, nor of any one thing relating to the expedition w^h. makes me wish I had never taken the Command upon me. for My Dr. Sir I dread Confusion, want of money, & that my Hands will be too much tyed up. I can already foresee that their Provincial Quotas will occasion an Argumentative War Which I fear will retard, if not distroy our Success. this I am Certain of, that if y^e. Indians Should now again find we Bully & threaten without executing our Just vengeance upon the French, and make Good that Superiority we Boast, & which I hope I shall bring them to believe, We will not have one Indian upon the Continent left in our Interest. I had letters from Mr. Shirley by Express, Some part of my Answer have communicated to Mr. Delancey w^h. I know you have Seen, I need not trouble you with. I mentioned to Gov^r. Delancey that the carriages of the Cannon, & field peices at Albany whare designed agt C Pt are all rotten, and useless, no Shells fitt for Use, and but few Shott. Those things should all have been ready now, had I orders to that purpose. I am quite pestered with Indians & others, so hope you will excuse my Stopping Short here, only adding that I am with all Sincerity

Y^r. Hearty Welwisher & Humble Serv^t.

W. J.

My Compliments to Mrs. Shuckburgh, Miss Betsey, & all Freinds in general I hope you will not forget to Send me the reflecting Telliscope, if you cannot get that one of Mr. Hain's, Mr. Oliver Delancey promised me his, w^h. in that case please to ask him for.

GOLDSBORROW BANYAR Esq^r

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: May 20th. 1755

Coppy of my letter
to GoldsBorrow
Banyar Esq^r.

FROM COLDEN AND KELLY¹*New York May 20th 1755*S^R

Its the Opinion of Several of our Friends that it would turn to great Advantage for one to Attend the Forces on the present Expedition (which are to be immediately under your Command) with Such Stores as in all probability both Officers and Soldiers may Stand in need of before the Campaign be Ended; And as we have a Trusty Young Lad our Apprentice of 19 years of Age, in whom we can Confide and who we Esteem Capable of Executing any Trust which may be proper to Repose in him: Are desirous of Sending him to follow the Camp with a proper Assortment of Goods provided it would be agreable to you and that you thought it Advisable & would be pleased to favour us by Countenancing and giving him your Protection —

The Confidence we have in your friendship, Emboldens us to give you the trouble of this, 'tho we do Suppose your time and thoughts must be intirely taken up with the Grand affairs of the Gov^t & hope you will excuse the freedom we take in writting to you on this head, & pray you would freely by the first op^{ty} let us know your Opinion wether you think it advisable to pursue this Scheme or not, that we may Govern ourselves Accordingly — If you think it Advisable to put it in Practice & worth your while we shall be proud to have you concerned one third with us, or any particular friend of yours who may go on this intended Expedition, and we will transact the whole in Such manner that it shall not be known, that you are anyways, interested in it, further then what you may think proper, & shall give the young man directions Strictly to observe all such orders as you from time to time shall give him —

Inclosed is a List of what we think would be a proper Assortment & desire you would add to it or Strike out just as you may think best. If you aprove of what we have mentioned hope you will be kind enough not to promise your Protection to any other

¹ In the handwriting of Alexander Colden.

person & please to advise wether or no by your favour these Stores may not be transported with the Kings Stores — Your favour herein will be an Addition to those already Received and will allways be thankfully acknowledged by Sr

• Your Very humble Serv^{ts}

COLDEN & KELLY

ADDRESSED:

To The Honble William Johnson Esq
at Mount Johnson Albany

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: May 20th. 1755

Letter from Colden & Kelly

MEMORANDUM¹

G^{ls} New York Rum in Small Cags
G^{ls} West India D^o in D^o
G^{ls} Jaimaca Spirits in D^o
G^{ls} Shrub . . . in D^o
Doz Claret in Small chest
Doz Maidera Wine in D^o
Doz Vidonia . . in D^o
Check Shirts
Garlick D^o
Slop Jackets
P^s of Check
Bolts of Ozenb^a
Handkercheifs
knives
Scissars
Needles
Thread
Shoes
Stockins
Caps
Cambricks
blk Ribbon

¹ Inclosed in Colden and Kelly to Johnson.

INSTRUCTIONS TO SIR CHARLES HARDY¹

D.

[Whitehall, May 20, 1755]

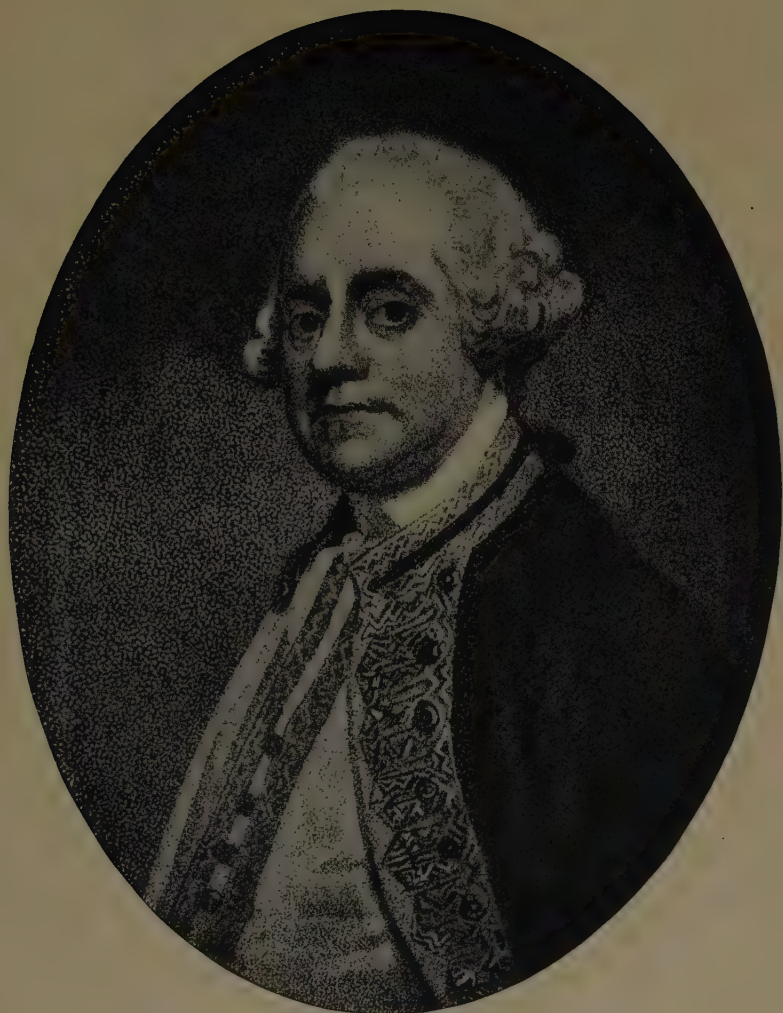
Copy of the 90th. 91st. 92^d. 93^d. Articles of Instructions given to Sir Charles Hardy, Knight, Governor of New York, relative to the Five Nations of Indians and their Confederates.²

90. You are to encourage the Indians upon all Occasions so as to Induce them to Trade with His Majesty's Subjects, rather than any others of Europe; and you are as soon as possible after Your Arrival to hold an Interview with the five Nations or Cantons of Indians, Viz. Maquas, Senequas, Cayouges, Oneydes, and Onondages and such as shall have joyned themselves in League with them, at such time and Place as you shall find most Convenient; and upon their renewing their Submission to His Majesty's Government, you are to Assure them in His Majesty's Name, that His Majesty will protect them as his Subjects against the French King and his Subjects; and You are to give the like Assurance to the Shacock or River Indians and to such other Indians in that Neighbourhood as by their Union and friendship with the five Nations aforesaid and in Conjunction shall submit themselves in the same Manner to His Majesty's Government.

91. And whereas at a meeting or Interview held with the principal Tribes of the five Nations or Cantons of Indians in the Year 1726, they did, by a solemn Deed or Instrument ratify, Confirm, submit and grant unto His late Majesty, His Heirs and Successors for ever, all their Land and Beaver Hunting lying and being Sixty Miles distant from the Lakes, beginning from a Creek called Canahoga on the Lake Oswego all along the said Lake, and all along the Narrow Passage from the said Lake to

¹Original destroyed in the fire. A manuscript in the New York Colonial Manuscripts (81:91) differs from this in capitalization and several particulars noted below.

²The copy in Colonial Manuscripts has "Articles of His Majesty's Instructions," omits "given," lacks the words following New York, and has the date, 1755.



Chas. Hardy

the Falls of Onigara¹ and all along the River of Onigara² and the Lake Catarakui to the Creek called Sodoms, belonging to the Senekas, and from Sodoms to the Hill call'd Tegerhunkserode belonging to the Cayouges, and from Tegerhunkserode to the Creek called Cayhunghage belonging to the Onondagas, all the said Land being of the Breadth of Sixty English Miles from the aforesaid Lakes or Rivers directly into the Country, and thereby including all the Castles of the aforesaid Nations, with all the Rivers, Creeks and Lakes within the said Limits, to be protected and defended by His said Late Majesty, His Heirs and Successors for ever to and for the use of the said Nations; You are therefore in His Majesty's Name, to give the most explicit Assurances to the said Nations or Cantons of Indians of His Royal Resolution inviolably to Observe the said Treaty on his Part, and to defend and support them in the quiet Possession of their said hunting Grounds; And you are not upon any Pretence whatsoever to grant Lands to any Person whatever within the Limits described in the said Deed, but to use Your utmost Endeavours to prevent any Settlements being made within the same.

92. And whereas great Complaints have lately been made by the five Nations or Cantons of Indians, that Settlements have been made upon their Lands by Persons claiming the same under Pretended Deeds of Sale or Conveyance from the said Indians by means whereof great Prejudice hath arisen to His Majesty's Service; in order, therefore, to Obviate the ill Effects which would attend a general Discontent of the Indians at this Critical Conjunction, and that nothing may be wanting to convince them of the Sincerity of His Majesty's Intentions to Support and protect them in their just Rights, It is His Majesty's express Will and Pleasure, that you do forthwith make the most strict and Impartial Enquiry into the Cause of their Complaints, and that You do take the most speedy and Effectual methods, which the Law in such Cases will allow, to redress their Grievances, and

¹ "Oniagara" in the Colonial Manuscripts.

² "Oniagra" in the Colonial Manuscripts.

use Your utmost Endeavours to quiet the uneasiness and Discontent which have of late appeared amongst them.

93. And whereas purchasing Lands from the Indians, without a Licence from His Majesty or from any Person acting under his Authority, is inconsistent with his Rights and may indanger the Peace and Security of his said Province; It is, therefore, His Majestys' Will and Pleasure, that you do not upon any Pretence whatsoever make a Grant or Grants to any Person or Persons of any Lands within the said Province purchased of the Indians, without a Licence first had and obtained from you for that Purpose; and when any Application shall be made to you, for a License to Purchase Lands of the Indians, You shall before the issuing of such Licence cause the Land proposed to be purchased to be carefully and Publickly Survey'd by a Sworn Surveyor in the Presence of the Indians claiming a Right to such Lands, and in the presence of an Interpreter properly Authoriz'd which said Surveyor shall within a reasonable time not exceeding three Months make a Return to you of such Survey sign'd or otherways attested and certifyed by such Indians, with a Plott or Description of the Land and the exact Buttings and Boundings thereof, the particulars whereof shall be fully inserted in the Licence to be by you granted for the Purpose; And you are to take especial Care, that in all Licences to be granted by you for the Purchase of Lands from the Indians the Quantity of Land to be Purchased by any one Person, either in his or her own Name or in the Names of any Person or Persons in trust for him or her, do not exceed one thousand Acres; And you are further to take Care, that in Passing Patents for Lands Purchased of the Indians under a Licence from you as aforesaid, You do strictly observe the Regulations prescribed in the foregoing Articles of these His Majesty's Instructions to you, relative to the form and method of Passing Grants for Land.

INDORSED: White Hall 1755

His Majesty's Instructions
to Sr. Charles Hardy Knight

TO OLIVER DE LANCEY

*A. Df.**Mount Johnson May 21st 1755.*

SIR

Since my arrival here, have nothing worthy your notice to communicate.

I hope you succeeded in your Commission to Connecticut & found every thing Agreeable.

The three Companys have all passed my house Some days ago, Captⁿ. King¹ will I reckon get to Oswego this day, the other two, will be there Shortly after him. They passed through the Country verry orderly without molesting any Body.

I am pestered with Numbers of Indians constantly about me, and verry expensive. On my arrival here I dispatched a Belt of Wampum through the Six Nations to aprize them of the March of the Troops to Oswego, desireing they would not be uneasy at it, nor offer any Violence either to the Men, or Battoes on their Peril finding by some of the Sachims whom I can confide in, that the Six Nations Notwithstanding the Message I sent, were a little disturbed, I thought best to dispatch one of the Interpreters thither with another belt of Wampum insisting on their good Behaviour which I hope will settle the whole Affair properly.

As I find no provision yet Made, or likely to be made by the Colonies concerned, for defraying the Charge of engaging a Number of Indians judged so essentially necessary, it lays me under a Necessity of Calling upon you for the thousand pounds Sterling as well as the remainder of the other thousand pound yet in your hands and as a great part of it must be given privately to Such as have a Sway among them I should be glad you would send Me the greatest part (or if to be done) the whole in dollars please to send it by Isack Swits, Cornelius Tenbrook or Isack Benthuyssen agreeing with them for their trouble & their Receipt shall be a sufficient discharge for the same, if any thing further

¹ John King, of the New York regiment.

should appear to You to be necessary please to let me know it,
and it shall be Complied with. I am Sir with unfeigned Esteem
Your Most Hum^{ble}. Serv^t.

My Compliments to

Mrs. Delancey &^{ca}.

OLIVER DELANCEY Esq^r.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: May 21st. 1755

Coppy of a Letter
to Oliver Delancey Esq^r.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

Tuesday 23^d May 1755

SIR

Since writing the inclosed; Richards arrived from London, the inclosed Letter from Dr. Shuckburgh I had from Mr. Kennedy, who gave me the Paper I send you a copy of: Whether Peace or War is not yet certain; but most probable the latter as the English are determined it is said not to abate any thing of the Terms they have offered & which we hear have been wholly refused: This vessell has had but 29 days Passage, tho from London the 28 March, on which day I suppose your Letter to be dated: they give no Account of any News since, but that there was no ship appointed to bring Mr. Hardy over, who is expected the latter End of June or the Beginning of July.

I waited this Morning on the Att^y. Gen^l.¹ with a Warr^t. to prepare the draft of your Patent, which I told him I would pay for You having left Money in my Hands for it. If it suits you I beg you'd send me an Order on somebody here for it if not I shall wait till it is convenient, & in the meantime desire your Note mentioning for so much Money advanced for you to the Att^y. Gen^l. The Governor is willing to accept your Note for

¹ William Kempe, 1752-59.

his Fees & will expect it I suppose when he puts the Seal to the Patent which will be ready by the time I can receive your answer His Fees @ £12:10 ₤ 1000 are £300 the Att^y. Gen^l. @ 3£ a Name £36 I would advise you if you can to get your Deed of Trust executed by the Trustees as soon as you can & before you go. Recite that by his Majesty's Letters Patent such a Tract of Land was granted to them and then convey to your self the *whole* Tract without mentioning particularly the 12th. part belonging to each, as in the deed I drew which was only from some of the Trustees. So the deed may be somewhat shorter than that.

Mr. Wendell,¹ Magin's Son in Law tells me his Father has been up, and that the Indians, on Account of the present Situation of Affairs, choose to defer the Survey till the Fall. If so, I believe I may say farewell to my Share in it (w^{ch}. is considerable) as I shall hardly care to advance for Gov^{rs}. Fees £150. And if Mr. Hardy should incline to give me them, w^{ch}. I have no Reason to expect (especially as his Brother in Law is to act as his Secretary) yet it would be a disagreeable Circumstance to be laid under so great an Obligation to him as a Stranger; when I flattered myself to receive it as a recompence for the little Services I have done this Gentleman (I mean Gov DeLancey) who as I told you, said he would take no Fees of me, and *inter nos* it is the only Gratuity I expect. You see then how much it is my Interest to desire your good offices to get it surveyed immediately which I doubt not at your Request the Indians will comply with; for admit most of them may be engaged in the Service, they can depute some of their elder Men or those who they agree to leave behind, to see it done. And they can have the less objection to this, as the Bargain is so well understood: For my own part I'd rather have it done now, & loose a third of the Purchase, than have it defer'd till the Fall: and tho it should suit Mr. Magin as well then, it will not me: Nor shall I consent to have it done then, be the Consequence what it will I therefore

¹ Henry I. Wendell.

repeat my request to you: there is just time enough to do it in, and I write to Magin about it now and if he should not incline to have it done, yet I suppose he will have no objection. If I advance the Money w^{ch}. if necessary I beg you to do for me, and if you should want it, draw on me and I will pay your draft immediately, but I hardly expect he will choose to leave it to the Fall as Mr. Wendell told me his Father intended to go up again quickly. I dont care much who surveys it so he knows what he's about. I shall get Shuckburgh's done, and the Indians may be agreed with afterwards.

To return to Politicks: Mr. Shirley has wrote the Gov^r. a Letter full of sly insinuations and greatly to Mr. D's¹ disadvantage. I believe when he reads the latter's Answer, he'll be more sparing of those sort of Reflections for the future.² In speaking in favour of the Destination of the Jersey Forces His Exc^y. says: The French will either make a Stand at Niagara, or they will not: & if they should not then the main Corps of Forces at Niagara, may soon join those at C. P^t: He does not know it seems the distance is near 500 miles. The Letter was read in Council but 'tis too long to enumerate more particulars now: however I observe by it you are to have the 13 Inch Mortar. In another Letter Mr. Shirley expresses his Concern & Surprise that Gov^r. DeLancey had not furnished you with an Impress Warrant. It was sent you by Cap^t. Bradstreet, to whom I gave it to deliver it to Mr. Wraxell who was to have gone with him but was left behind. I delivered an^r. to Cap^t. Bradstreet for himself and Mr. Alex^r. is furnished with another. The Governor bids me to tell you, you shall want for nothing it is in his Power to grant: how far the condition may extend I cant tell. But I really believe him heartily disposed to favour you, tho he is I judge a

¹ Governor DeLancey.

² For differences between Governor Shirley and Governor De Lancey, consult Shirley to De Lancey, May 26, 1755, Shirley to Governor Morris, May 28, 1755, and Shirley to De Lancey, June 1, 1755, *Pennsylvania Archives*, ser. 1, 2:326-28, 330-31, 338-43.

little displeased at Mr. Shirley's Treatment of him. I dont forget your Reflecting Telescope. I am Sr.

Your most obed^t. h^{ble}. Servant

GW BANYAR

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: May 23^d. 1755

Letter from Mr. Banyar

TO BENJAMIN STODDERT

A. Df. S.

May 23, 1755.

SIR

The great Hurry of business I have had er'e Since my arrival here, has prevented my writing You Sooner, all I can now Say is that I have a few Blank Commissions for those whom I find qualified for the Indian Service, and have an Influence over them. I propose engaging as Many of y^e. five Nations as I possibly can immediately to Join me, for which End I have Sent two Interpreters to call the five Nations to a General Meeting at my House as Soon as may be. If you think it would be worth your while to engage in this Service I would Give You a Capt^{ns}. Commission to command a party of Indians, they are not to go a Scalping as in the late War, only to March with me where ever I go. In this Case I would have you lodge what goods you have of Mine in the hands of Captⁿ. Broadstreet,¹ or whoever may be Commd^g. Officer there at the time, takeing His receipt and bringing me an Exact list of them, As for Small or fine goods you had better bring down, I will take them again. If you come down with this intent you should bring as many Indians with you as possible, makeing them promise to go any where with you. I think you may get Several Volunteers. let them bring their Arms. pray tell Mr. Thomas Butler, and Jonathan Stevens I will give each of them the same encouragem^t.

¹ John Bradstreet, afterward colonel.

provided they come down immediately on the receipt of this; and as they come down they are to get as many Young Ind^{ns}. as they possibly can, to engage with them, & bring them down in order to march with me wherever I go.

I intend to march in 3 Weeks time at furthest. the best way to engage Indians, is to Secure in y^r. Interest y^e. head Warriours who can bring their party along with them I am much hurried now so have only time to bid you Farewell, let me have your, & their Answer by the Bearer, and let me know whether the Ondaga Indⁿ. called Corn Milk has lately passed Oswego going to Canada; if he has forward him on his return to me with all dispatch.

Y^{rs}.

W. J.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: May 23^d. 1755.
 Coppy of a letter to
 Benj. Stoddart
 Tho^s. Butler & Jⁿ. Stevens

FROM BENNING WENTWORTH¹

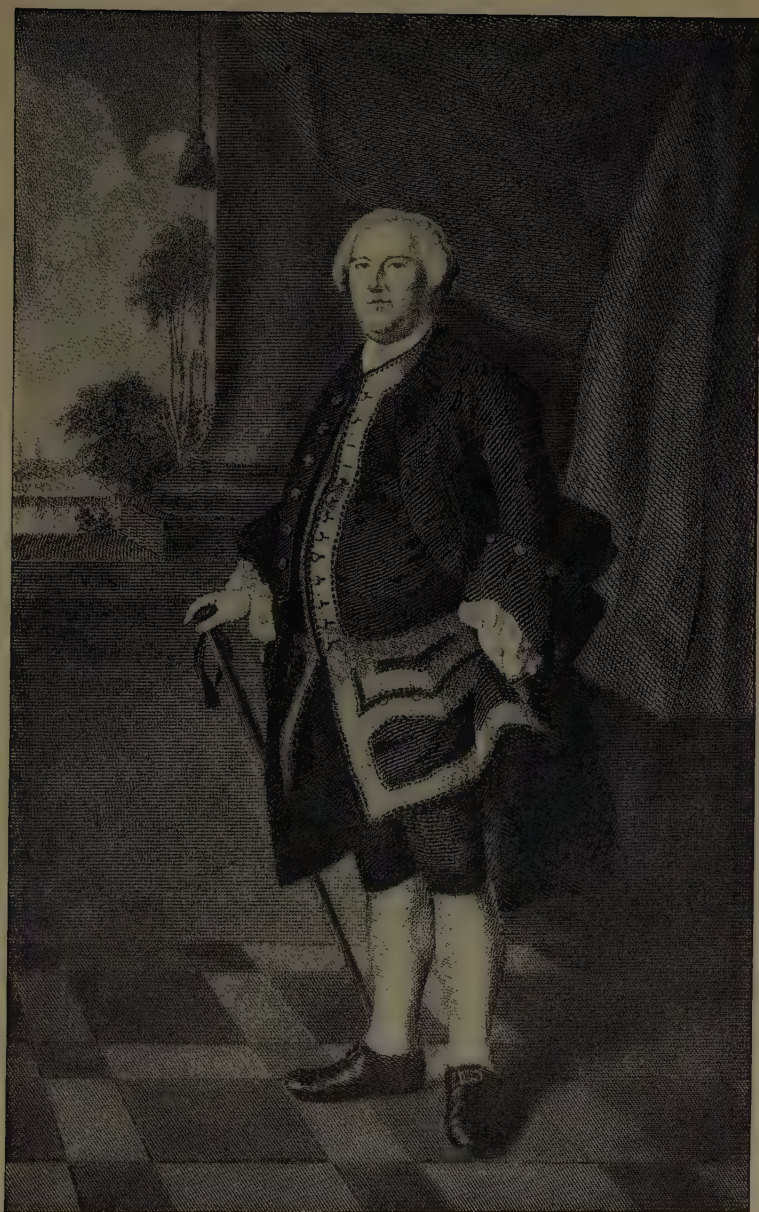
A. L. S.

Portsmouth May 23^d 1755

SIR

Your Esteemed favour of the 5th Instant I have now before me; your being appointed Commander in Chief of the forces raised in the Colony of New York for the Expedition intended

¹ Benning Wentworth was born in Portsmouth, N. H., in 1696, and died there in 1770. He was a member of the assembly, king's councilor, and from 1741 to 1767 governor of the province. He was a graduate of Harvard College and a patron of Dartmouth. His grants of land west of the Connecticut river were the source of a long controversy involving the territorial rights of New York and New Hampshire and the claim of Vermont to independent existence.



P. Wentworth

against Crown Point, is very agreeable to me, & I shall be ready to Joyn with His Majestys other Governors, in your apointment to the Chief Command of the forces raised in my Government for that Service, or, make out a Seperate Commission, either of which will be most Eligible to you; which shall be transmitted, as soon as I know your mind in this matter.

The Grant made by the Assembly of this Province was five hundred men officers Included, which is double the Quota, as it was formerly Established, but the Commissioner of, & from the Massachusets, Assureing the Assembly that the Southern Governments would Subsist the Forces raised here, and provide all Necessary Warlike Stores relative to the Expedition, they readily came into the Grant of five hundred men, & I have the troops ready for Service; as I have been particularly carefull in raising these troops, I am hoping the regiment will be as usefull as any that goes in the Service.

I moved the Assembly to make a Suitable provision for you, as Commander in Chief of the Forces raised for the Expedition in which there will be no difficulty, as Soon as it is known what grants any of the other Governments make, for their guidance in the affair.

I have not the least prospect of obtaining any Grant from the Assembly, for Artillery, or warlike Stores, nor even for Battos, unless I consent to Shorten the grant of five hundred men, to two hundred & fifty, which in my opinion will be a greater Injury to the Expedition, than to be deficient in the prôportion this Province in Justice ought to bear, in Ordnance Stores, the whole regiment being made up of men inured to hardships, and bred in the woods, for which Reason they are averse to the Sea, & make it their Choice to march by Land & Joyn the Army at the Place of General Rendesvouz near Crown point Fort; both officers & men haveing made this their Choice, the Com^{tee}: of war have made no provision for transports, but have provided Carts Oxen & baggage horses for the march by land, to Connecticut

river, from whence they will be able to Joyn the main Army in four days. I am with great respect, Sr

Your most obedient hum^{bl} Servant

B WENTWORTH

P. S. I have no prospect of procuring Engineers, or any proper persons, that will be usefull in manageing the Artillery.

B. W.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: May 23^d. 1755

Gov^r. Wentworths

Letter

rec^d. June 14th. 1755

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

Saturday 24 May 1755

SIR

I have nothing to add to my Letter I wrote two or three days ago Except what I then forgot, which is that Mr. Shirley has again applyed for the other 2 12pdrs brass and if he will send 4 Iron 24pdrs he is to have them They are making for them & the other 12 pounders such Carriages as I have described in my Letter. Col^o Pepperel arrived here yesterday afternoon; and Mr. Shirley's Reg^t. are expected here the next week. This day or Monday next the Batoes will be finished, But where are the Massachusets, N Hampshire, & the 100 for the Train to be built. If you had more Gun Powder even to the Guns we know you are to have, it wo'd be better which must be applyed for to the other Gov^{ts}. who are to furnish the Train. Pray dont forget to assist me all you can in getting Magin's Purchase survey'd

I am Sr

Your m^t. obed^t. hble Sevt.

GW BANYAR

ADDRESSED: To The Hono^{ble} William Johnson Esq^r.

at Mount Johnson

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: May 24th. 1755

Letter

from Mr. Banyar

SOME HINTS FOR A COMMANDING OFFICER

May 24, 1755

It may be needless to observe that a Commanding officer setting out without a Sufficiency of Provisions and Stores, is going to work without Tools, of all which the utmost care is to be taken, and well guarded, because a sudden supply will be difficult, if not impossible.

Make sure of a safe retreat in case of accidents; the Battle is not always to the strong

If you gain a Victory, be more upon your guard.

If you loose dont despair.

Let nothing ruffle your Temper, be always cool, happen what will.

Let no disappointment cool your Courage, but on the Contrary exert yourself the more, disappointments create experience, and this an officer.

At no time shew any diffidence or fear in your Countenance.

By all means get the esteem and affection of your officers and Men, but they ought at the same time to know you Command; there is a difference between power and authority.

Distinguish a brave man, and reward a gallant action upon the spot.

Be carefull of your sick men, and visit them some times your self.

Spare no cost for Intelligence.

Do not go to sleep till your Camp is well secured, and this you must see yourself.

Do not encamp but where the water is good.

When you make presents to the Indians let them be such as will be most acceptable to their Wives and Mistresses.

That all Prisoners especially Indians be sent to New York, you will find the benefit of it in the Event.

You may have occasion for Irons for some sort of Prisoners.

Carry with you a few Conck Shells, if a party should be dispersed, or a Man lost in the woods, the shell will let them know where they are, and will be heard as far as a Gun, and further than a Drum, by either of which they may be deceived; by the other they cannot, as it is not very probable the enemy will carry any thing of that kind.

If you should come to a Parly get Hostages as soon as you can.

The hours of a Parley are dangerous for Surprizes.

Prayers have often a good effect, especially among New England men, a well gifted New England Parson, might therefore be an usefull implement.

Great care to be taken about your out Sentries, especially in the Night, and each to have a watchfull Dog, and supported by other Out Guards.

A General officer must keep a good Table.

Engage in no Action of importance without the advice of a Council of War; and let every thing, and every one's opinion, be carefully noted, this will Justify you upon all occasions.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON:

May 24 1755.

Copied from the original in Mr. Kennedy's¹ hand Writing.

Some Hints for a Command^r Officer.

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY

L. S.

Boston, May 24th. 1755

SIR,

Yesterday I received your Packet dated at Mount Johnson the 16th: Instant by Express.

I am intirely of your Opinion with regard to the Indian Officers, and will lose no time in pressing the several Governm^{ts}:

¹ Archibald Kennedy, sr.

concern'd forthwith to make the needfull Provision for their Pay in the manner propos'd by you; as also for defraying the Expence of engaging and maintaining the Indians in the English Interest, by fix'd Funds, and giving you an absolute Power to draw upon them for that Service according to their respective proportions; which is doubtless necessary to be done.

The Assembly of my own Province was dissolv'd before my Arrival here, and a New one can't meet by the Charter before the 28 Instant; I will then obtain a positive and explicit Answer from them in the particular you desire; I have no reason to doubt of it's being satisfactory to you: I will also let the other Governments concern'd except that of New York (w^{ch}: M^r: DeLancey will do) know the absolute Necessity there is of their coming to an immediate Determination in these Points, and making a certain Provision by some fix'd Fund accordingly; and I think with you, this may be best done by communicating to them the proper paragraphs of your Letter to me, & enforcing them with Arguments drawn from the reasonableness & Necessity of the Thing.

The £800 must, as you observe, be apply'd to making a Present to the Indians; and I am sensible the Remainder of the £2000. will soon be exhausted in the Articles mention'd in your Letter.

I have already let you know that I shall answer your Drafts for what may be necessary over and above the money advanc'd to you by General Braddock for carrying on and supporting the Alliance with the six Nations, pursuant to the General's Order to me for that Purpose.

I know the Difficulties, you must be under in reclaiming the almost lost Affections of the six Nations to the English and engaging them in the present Service agst: the thousand Artifices of the French; But I can't but be perswaded, from the Knowledge I have of your Influence over them, & the Talents you have for effecting this most important Business, that you will surmount them, & do your King and Country the desir'd Service.

The Progress you have already made, and the scheme for satisfying their Minds with Regard to the fortifying of Oswego, w^{ch}. is a most necessary thing, give me great Satisfaction: You will not forget to engage some good Indians to meet me at Oswego.

I doubt not but that the Carriages & everything belonging to the Artillery design'd for the Service under your Command, are rotten and unfit for Service; and shall accordingly take Care to have new ones made; a large Number of Workmen are on their Way to Albany from Boston, to make this Government's Battoes; I shall press the other Governments to take the same Care: and will use the like Endeavours for having all the Military Stores provided in time: and that the Companies shall be sent to Albany as they are compleated; I will take particular Care of the eight Articles mentioned in one of your inclos'd papers: Your Observation in the 8th. Article upon one of my Instructions is right.

I shall not lose a day for pushing on all Preparations, and the marching of the Forces to Albany; and shall write to you again in a few Days; when I hope, I shall be able to mention the Time of my coming to Albany.

You will make the utmost Dispatch on your part with regard to your Business with the Indians, and giving the necessary Orders concerning the Provincial Forces as they shall arrive at Albany.

The fixing of a proper Allowance by the several Colonies, I shall particularly have at Heart.

The Intelligence contain'd in another of your inclos'd Papers is of great Service.

You will have, if New York raises their 800 Men, and the Colony of Connecticut their design'd Augmentation, as I hope they will both, 4,700 Men beside the Indians for the Expedition against Crown point.

I am with much Truth and Esteem, sir,

Your faithfull Humble Servant,

W SHIRLEY

WILLIAM SHIRLEY TO JAMES DE LANCEY¹*Attested extract**Boston, May 25th: 1755*

SIR

I flatter my self that upon the perusal of the two inclosed paragraphs of General Johnson's and Mr. Alexander's Letters, Your Honour will think that it is absolutely necessary for your Government to take some immediate step for preventing the mischievous effects of the pernicious intercourse between the French Indians and Albany at this juncture; from whence it can't be doubted but that the French of Canada have constant intelligence given them by the latter of every motion of the English, than which nothing can have a greater tendency to disappoint his Majesty's service in every part of the present Expedition, particularly in the designed attempt for the Reduction of the French Forts at Niagara, and securing the principal pass on the Lakes against them upon their possession of which depends much their holding the Territories which they have seized upon there, and which likewise hath a strong tendency even to endanger the important Fort at Oswego, within your own Government

I beg leave therefore to desire your Honour's immediate consideration of proper measures to prevent the French Indians from coming into the government of New York at present, and for securing those which are there now, from returning to Canada until the Circumstances of his Majesty's service and the safety of his Colonies will admit of it. It seems clear to me that these Indians being permitted to come from Canada to Albany or return from thence to Canada at this Juncture must be at least as dangerous, if not more so, than to suffer the French Subjects belonging to Cape Breton to come into or to depart out of our Colonies now, all whom it has been thought necessary to put under a Restraint for some time. I am perswaded your Honour upon this occasion will have no dependence on the late Treaty

¹ Inclosed in De Lancey to Johnson, June 7, 1755, q. v.

of Neutrality made between the Cagnawaga Indians and Commissioners for Indian affairs at Albany, even with respect to the Government of New York; As to the King's Subjects of his other Colonies which your Honour seems to think, in one of your Letters to me, are included in this Treaty: upon the perusal of the Copy of it which you sent me, I am far from thinking it probable, that those Indians understand it to extend to any other Colony than that of New York: which I know are the Sentiments likewise of others who have seen it: and even if those Indians did understand it otherwise, I cant think any Reliance is to be had upon it now.

Wm. Shirley.

The Hon^{ble} JAMES DELANCEY, Esq.

Extract Exam^d By GW. BANYAR, D S Con.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Extracts of Gov^r. Shirleys Letter to Gov^r. Delancey concerning the Cogh Nawages

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

New York 27 May 1755.

SIR

I was a good deal disappointed in not hearing from you by the Sloop¹ Silvestre the French Deserter came hither in; he arrived yesterday & was examined in Council in the afternoon, I inclose you a Copy of his Examination, with which, and a Letter from L^t Holland, an Express was dispatched to be forwarded to the General from Philadelphia. The Gov^r. is informed you sent it to him by an Indian Express, but it was thought necessary to send it this way too, especially as you had not acquainted Gov^r. DeLancey you had already sent it. Both himself and the Gentlemen of the Council, Mr. Kennedy in particular, express'd some Surprise that you had not wrote a Line at least to acquaint

¹ The sloop that carried Sylvestre from Albany to New York.

them with the Disposition of the Indians, & how far you might rely on assistance from them. If you'll indulge me in the freedom of giving my opinion, I really think this Government have a claim, tho not of the Management, yet to know what is done in Indian Affairs, which are altogether transacted within the Province, and as they have so great an Interest in them, the Contrary opinion is not to be supported by good Arguments. I mention'd that perhaps you'd not yet been able to sound their Sentiments, & chose therefore to defer writing till you could do it with certainty — A Line from you at least it was said might have been expected. All the News I hear, is that Gov^r. Shirley is preparing to leave Boston, from whence their Eastern Forces are actually sailed I'm told. But there's not a Word about the Boston Batoes, or those for the Train. I send the Papers and am Sir

Your most obd^t. humble Servant

GW BANYAR

ADDRESSED: To the Hono^{ble}. William Johnson Esq^r. at Mount Johnson.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: N York May 27th. 1755

Banyars letter & part of my
Answer¹ to him.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

28 May 1755

SIR

I have just time to send you the inclosed just reced from on board Griffiths — I was glad to see your L^{re} to the Gov^r. of the 15 this Month, which will convince him you were not so negligent as he apprehended — He sent it to me two hours ago to be laid before the Council who met at the City Hall desiring their Advice what part to communicate to the Assembly, they

¹ See Johnson to Banyar [June 2?, 1755].

think the whole, but leave it to him. The Assembly met yesterday & the Gov^r. in his Message recommended to them the several particulars mentioned in Mr. Shirleys Letter of which I sent you an Account — And that they would furnish you with a Sum to defray your Expences — And he tells them he thinks all the Provinces should make you appointments suitable to your Rank and Station — My Compliments to Mr. Wraxall — No Boston Batoes yet, I am afraid by the manner of Mr. Shirley's taking Notice of your not being furnished with a press Warrant for Batoes &c he thinks of pressing them at Albany A good Joke if he does — Excuse the paper I write this upon it lay next to me & I am much hurried I shall wait patiently til I hear from you And am Sr.

Your most obed^t. humble Servant

G^w BANYAR

Do you think the
Persons in Albany
will fill their Comp^s.
soon The Gov^r. writes to
'em now It is 7 oClock P. M.
Wednesday

ADDRESSED: To Major General Johnson
at Mount Johnson

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: New York 28th. May 1755
Banyars letter

FROM OLIVER DE LANCEY

A. L. S.

N York May y^e 28th 1755

SIR

Your Favour of y^e 21st Inst: I received and imediatly went down to See for one of the Sloop Masters you directed me to Send the Money with I find Jacob Van Bent Huysen the first

that will be ready and accordingly have taken his Receipt for 4000 Dollars which he has on board and you Must pay him 5 Dollars for his Trouble which I thinck very Reasonable

New York 29th May 1755

As I imagin'd it may be agreeable to You I just now took Capt Ayre By the Hand who is Come this way to attend you on this Expedition as Engineer he appears to be a pretty Kind of Man and I wish May be every thing You Desire of Him I Have no More time but to Say that I am Sr

Your Most Humble Ser^t.

OLIVER DELANCEY

N^o 1 a Bag y^e

N 2 a Box y^e 2027 5/8 Dollars

Package 4/

MAJOR GENERAL JOHNSTON

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: N. York 28th. May 1755

Oliver Delanceys letter

JOHN BRADSTREET TO THE COLONIAL GOVERNORS

*Copy*¹

Oswego May 29th. 1755

SIR,

I think it my Duty to give you the earliest Notice, that in my Way to this Place Colonel Johnson and I examin'd a Frenchman who deserted from Canada with his Wife, who inform'd us that the French had actually sent 950 Men to the Ohio in four Detachments, the last of which he saw at Cataraque, and they past this place about the time he expected; and that on my Arrival here the 27th. Ins^t: I made it part of my Business to examine into the truth of it from Indians who are constantly coming here from all Quarters, who agree intirely with his

¹Attested by Shirley. Inclosed in Shirley to Johnson, June 15, 1755, q. v. See also Bradstreet to Shirley, May 29, 1755.

Account; Since which the Movements and Activity of the French makes it still more necessary I should lose no time in letting you know what has pass'd and the Accounts I have, viz. That on the 25th. of this Month twelve Battoes pass'd this place with Men and Provisions; the 27th. Eleven; and this Day eleven; which latter had on board nine small Cannon, and they carry one wth. the other ten Men; and I am well informed there are more Men preparing to set out from Cataraque, and others daily expected from Montreal there; & the French are using all their Power and Artifice to get as many Indians with them to oppose General Braddock as they possibly can, and openly declare to the Indians they will send the whole Force of Canada, but they will carry their point.

I must also inform you there are many Indians here, & Numbers are daily expected; and they appear to be very attentive to the proceedings between the French and us; and that I conceive there never was a time when the giving Provisions to such as are in Real Want, and well chosen Presents to the principal People, than at this time; and that great Good might, & I believe would result from it.

I have sent an Express with these Acc^{ts}. this Day to the General across the Country; and have wrote to the several Governors from New York to Virginia also.

I am, Sir,

Your most Obedient Humble Servant

John Bradstreet¹

Copy

W SHIRLEY

INDORSED: Copy of Captain Jn^o Bradstreet's
Letter to the several Gov^{rs}.
dated Oswego May 29, 1755

¹ John Bradstreet was born in England in 1711 and died in New York City in 1774. As lieutenant colonel of Pepperrell's regiment, he participated in the Louisburg expedition in 1745. The following year he was made lieutenant governor of St John's, Newfoundland. In 1756 he

TO JAMES DE LANCEY

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 33 by a letter of May 29th, from Johnson at Albany to De Lancey. (Printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:654-55; Q. 2:382). Not destroyed in the fire.

JOHN BRADSTREET TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Extract*¹

Extract from John Bradstreet's Letter to Governor Shirley, dated Oswego May 29th: 1755.

I think the proceedings of the French, of such Importance to General Braddock, that I have not only sent him an Accot. thereof, by two Indians across the Country, but have also acquainted the several Governors therewith; a Copy of one of the Letters you have here inclos'd, for your Information.

I am also to acquaint your Excellency, that I found it absolutely necessary to march my Men from Schenectady to the Lake Onieada, both for Dispatch, and to be able to bring Provisions and Stores; and that I am of Opinion, it is the best Method for those Troops, w^{ch}. may follow to do the same. I am greatly apprehensive, it will take more time to bring a large Number of Troops, with Stores and Provisions here, than most People imagine, should we have a dry Season, which probably may be the Case at the time they arrive at Schenectady. Your Excellency will allow me to say, that I conceive, if the Troops should meet with any Disappointments to delay their March, so as to be

was successful in conveying a large quantity of stores to Oswego, and on his return, in defeating an attacking party of the French on the Oswego river. He served in General Abercromby's campaign against Ticonderoga, captured and dismantled Fort Frontenac, and accompanied General Amherst against the fortresses on Lake Champlain. In the war which was consequent on Pontiac's conspiracy, he commanded a force sent to subdue the western Indians. In 1772 he was promoted to a major generalship.

¹ Inclosed in Shirley to Johnson, June 15, 1755, q. v.

late before they proceed to Action, it may have a bad tendency; for you may be assur'd there is nothing said or done of any Consequence in any of the Governm^{ts}., but soon finds its way to Albany, where the French have a Succession of Indians to carry it to Crown point & Montreal; & that they have or will soon have an Account of your Intentions, I have not the least Doubt; and may & probably will send from Crown point a party of Indians to Wood creek to cut off the Battoes, w^{ch}. may be sent with Provisions & Stores, before the Troops arrive; should your Excell^y. be of that Opinion, you may probably think it necessary to secure that place; I shall therefore beg leave to say 200 Men wou'd be Sufficient, and were one half of them posted on the Great carrying place and the other within three Miles of the Lake it would be the properest places.

Your Excellency will please to observe in the inclos'd Letter¹ what I mention about the Indians; I shall beg leave to say further that I have engag'd the principal Chief of the Miscisaga Indians who came here to trade, to go to Colonel Johnson's; & at his Request have sent a Belt of Wampum to his Nation who live on the North Side of the Lake; they are a numerous Nation, and live in Friendship with the Six Nations, and certain I am, if I had Authority with proper presents and provisions, I could engage many Indians to go to the Westward with us.

INDORSED: Extract from Captain John

Bradstreets Letter to Gov^r. Shirley dated Oswego
May 29th. 1755.

WRAPPER ADDRESSED:

On his Majesty's Service

To Major General William Johnson
at Mount Johnson

To be immediately forwarded by Cap^t. Marshal or
other Commanding Officer of the Fort at Albany.

WRAPPER INDORSED BY JOHNSON: May 29th. 1755. Rec^d.
this letter of Governour Shirleys by Brazier.

¹ Bradstreet to the Governors, May 29, 1755, *q. v.*

FROM HUBERT MARSHALL

D.

A List of the Artillery belonging to fort Fre^k.

18 Pounders	797
Bomb Shells	62
Hand Granades	522
Nine Six pounders Ladles	
the Same of Rammers & Wormes	
One Eighteen pounder Ladle & Rammer	
The Ginn & Fall Rotten	
One Morter Piece	
No Crow Irons nor Hand Spykes Nor Spades	
Nor pick Axes nor Shovells	
6 pounders Cartridg.	154
3 pounders 24 Cartridges	
18 pounders 50 Cartridges	
Matches 50 Weight	

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: A List of what
 Warlike Stores
 are at Fort Frederick
 returned me by Cap^m.
 Marshall
 May 30th. 1755

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY

Contemporary copy

Boston, May 31st. 1755

State of the Case of the Expedition against
 Niagara with regard to the Number of Troops
 Sufficient for that Service.

When the Expedition to Crown point was first determined upon
 by the Colonies concern'd in it, there was no thought of making
 any Attempt for the Reduction of the French Forts at Niagara

at the same time, and it was Expected that the Forces employ'd against Crown point, would have the whole Strength of the Country about Montreal to encounter. The Provincial Forces which were then depended upon, being rais'd as Sufficient for that Service, were 4000 Men, as to New Jersey's sending any, tho' that Government was desir'd in General to send some, Yet it was Scarcely expected from them, & therefore no Quota was allotted to them; And in the Resolves of the Massachusetts Assembly, it was determined to begin to raise their Quota of Men as Soon as it should be certainly known, that the Colonies of New York, Connecticut, New Hampshire and Rhode Island should raise their respective Proportions, without staying to know the Success of the Application to the Gov^t. of New Jerseys, or whether they could have the Assistance of one of the Kings American Regim^{ts} or not, w^{ch} tho' desir'd was very precarious.

This Alteration of the General Plan of Operations, is a very material one, as it will Occasion a Considerable Diversion of the French Forces, which would otherwise be employ'd in the defence of Crown point.

It is well known that the Value of Canada to the French consists chiefly in its convenient Situation for Carrying on the Great Furr Trade, they have with all the Indians, inhabiting the Country, behind the Apalactrian Mountains, and for making them Masters of that Country, and of those Nations, the former of which they have openly invaded, and begun to force the latter into their Interest: This Acquisition would of itself be a very large and Valuable Dominion to the French, Especially as it would be Contiguous to their Settlements upon the Mississippi, and must if they should gain it, contribute greatly towards their Reduction of all the English Colonies in North America.

It is as well known likewise, that in Order to make this Acquisition, it is necessary for the French to hold possession of the Lakes Ontario, and Erie, the Strait of Niagara, and the River Ohio, since it is only by means of them, that they can maintain an usefull Communication between Canada and the Mississippi;

Their former Route from Montreal thro' the River Outouwoais,¹ and by way of Mischelimakenak, is practicable only for light birch Canoes, as it abounds with Falls, and hath Thirty Six portages or Carrying places.

The Cutting the French off therefore from the Navigation of the Lakes Ontario and Erie, and the pass at Niagara, must prevent them from effecting a Junction of Canada with the Mississippi, disconcert their Schemes upon the Ohio, and put an End to their Views of Compassing that Empire, w^{ch}. they have long mark'd out for themselves upon the Back of the English Colonies, and of late made a progress towards Obtaining.

Consequently it is to be expected, that they will exert their utmost Efforts to defend their Possession of these Lakes, and the pass at Niagara, which must of Course occasion a great Diversion of the Forces in Canada, they would otherwise employ at Crown point, and of Course facilitate the Reduction of the French Fort there.

The forces now raising for the Expedition to Crown point, are 800 by the Gov^t. of New York, 1000 by the Colony of Connecticut, 1500 by the Massachusetts Bay, 500 by the Province of New Hampshire, & 400 by that of Rhode Island, in all 4200 Men, w^{ch}. with the Indians that General Johnson may be expected to raise, will amount in the whole to 4400 Men at least, and if even 1000 Men were to be spar'd from them, for the Service at Niagara, the remander would be a much more Sufficient force to attempt the Reduction of Crown point with now, than 5000 would have been, if no Diversion had been made by the Expedition to Niagara.

It ought to be Considered in this case, if the French are Obligated to run the Risque of loosing either their Fort at Crown point, or all the Southern Country, w^{ch} Risque they would Sooner run, the former or latter; If they should lose Crown point, they might easily Strengthen themselves upon Lake Champlain, if they should

¹ Ottawa river.

lose the latter, Canada itself would not be worth holding, nor Could the well maintain the Expence of it without the Fur Trade.

Further it seems very likely that upon the Arrival of General Braddock's Forces at the French Forts upon the Ohio in good Order, they will Quit them, & Come in their Battoes across Lake Erie to Niagara, in which case with the Forces which they would send from Montreal across Lake Ontario on the other hand Supposing them to be only 1000, and what they could soon Muster from among the Indians, they might easily make up double the Number of what would be employed in the Attempt at Niagara, even wth the addition of the 500 Men proposed by the Province of the Massachusetts Bay.

There is another very Material thing likewise in the Case, which is, That the Forces employ'd in the Expedition to Niagara, will intercept the French now upon the Ohio, if they should attempt to Cross Lake Ontario to come to the Relief of Crown point, which is another Circumstance that would Greatly facilitate the Reduction of Crown point, and is much in favour of the Expedition to Niagara's being Supported.

Another thing to be Considered is, that a Defeat at Niagara, would forever fix all the Indians in the Interest of the French, on the other hand succeeding there would bring 'em all over to the English Interest.

It should be further Observed that as Gov^r Shirley hath full power to employ the Forces under his Command in any part of the Kings Service, after that at Niagara is Effectuated, he may possibly be able especially in case there should be but little Opposition there, to Strengthen the Forces at Crown point, with those under his own Command, at all Events if the Service at Crown point should Labour for want of a larger Number of Troops, it would be very practicable for it to be Strengthen'd in time from the Colonies, as Those Troops may intrench or otherwise Secure themselves ag^t. a Stronger Force, untill they should receive such

Succours, but that would not be the Case with the Forces at Niagara, under like Circumstances.

W SHIRLEY

INDORSED BY WRAXALL: Gov^r. Shirleys Reasons for reinforcing the Troops designed against Niagara &c. [*with Volunteers*] from the Troops destined for Crown Point.

REPORT OF MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE

*Attested Copy*¹

Copy¹ of the report of a committee of the General Assembly of the Massachusetts Bay on that part of Governor Shirleys Speech of the 29th. of May 1755 which relates to the several Expeditions now carrying on against the Encroachments of the French.

The Committee appointed to take under Consideration that part of his Excellency's Speech of yesterday which relates to the several Expeditions now carrying on against the Encroachments of the French report as their humble opinion:

That the removal of the encroachments made by the French at Niagara, is a matter of very great importance to his Majesty's Interest, and must undoubtedly engage a very Considerable proportion of the French Force to prevent it. That this diversion of the French force will cause that a less number of Men may be sufficient for the Crown Point Expedition than what would otherwise be necessary. The Committee are therefore further of opinion that as many of the Forces raised for the Crown Point Expedition as his Excellency shall apprehend necessary, may be employed in the proposed service at Niagara during the time for which they are inlisted, provided that his Excellency will cause said Forces to be Transported and victualled without any Expence to the Province. Provided also that the other Governments concerned in the Expedition shall make no Exception to this measure, and that the said Forces voluntarily engage

¹ By Banyar.

in said service, and that not less than 3700 Men, exclusive of the Indians, be employed in the service against Crown Point.

J Osborne by order.

In Council May 31. 1755. Read and ordered that this Report be accepted.

Sent down for Concurrence

Tho^s Clarke Dep^{ty} Secry

In the House of Representatives May 31, 1755 Read and Concur'd. Attest^r. Henry Gibbs Cler Dom Re

Consented to.

W Shirley

Copy Examined

¶ Tho^s Clarke Dep^{ty} Secry

A true Copy Exam^d. By

GW. BANYAR D Secry

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: 31st. May 1755

Report of the Commee of Massachusetts
Bay to employ a part of the Crown Point
Forces on the Expedⁿ. to Niagara

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

New York 1st. June 1755. Sunday.

DEAR SIR

Mr. Alexander delivered me your Letter of the 20th. Ul^{to}. Yesterday the Assembly were adjourned to the 11th. Instant: then to meet again: the Gov^r. laid before them a complete Copy of your Letter except as to that part where you say your Judgment & Experience would not let you trust to, the word Experience was omitted &c I have no Copy of their Resolves just now by me but remember the Substance: In one of them they suppose 300 Ind^s. will be engaged, & that 2000£ will be necessary to provide 'em with Guns, strouds, Provisions, Paint

&c of which they vote to pay their Proportion, including in that proportion Pensilvania & Maryland Jerseys, this & the New England Gov^{ts}. New Hampshire by a Letter Gov^r. DeLancey reced last night from their Gov^r., decline any Expence about the Train & Stores, intend only to Subsist their Men (500) with Provs till they come to Crown Point at most, and the Assembly wanted the Gov^r. to disband half of them, the Province not being able to support the Expence, but the Gov^r. would not do it. I am in hopes however this may not throw any insuperable Obstacle in the Way of the Service. Mr. Shirley hasn't wrote a word by the Post. Mr. Alexander told me he had sent from Boston 50 Carpenters to Albany to build the Batoes for their Forces: The Assembly voted to pay their proportion of a Vessell built on the Lake if necessary to build one, & to pay to Gen^l. Braddock their Proportion of the £800 Sterling put in to your Hands. They've said nothing about Forts to receive the Sick &^{ca}. nor any more about your Expences or appointment, but as the bill they have before them is still unfinish'd when they come again, they may make Provision on those Heads, they wait till Massachusetts shew them the way. This will ever be the case in your Colony Expeditions.

On Friday Captain Ayres arrived here to assist you in quality of an Engineer. he acted as a volunteer Engineer at Bergen Opzoom.¹ I cannot form any opinion of his abilities that Way, but believe he will more than answer the expectation you had of the Gentleman the General said he would order for this Service, who I think was a Lieutenant, & of a diff^t. Name. Last Night at Willets, Mr. Ayres gave the Gov^r. a letter in which he desires him to order six Cannon more for the Expedition, Viz^t. 2 thirty two pdrs considerably lighter than the 18 pds at Albany, the two Brass 18 pdrs & 2 Iron twelve pounders with their Carriages: the Gov^r. told him he would give him an answer today,

¹ In the Netherlands; taken by the French September 15, 1747, after a siege of two months.

that if he succeeds he may acquaint Gov^r. Shirley with it and use it as an Argument for more Powder. He will set out to join you in a few days as he says he can do nothing more here to forward the Service.

Yesterday a Lre¹ from Mr. Dinwiddie come to Hand who sends 600 Arms, bought by that Province & cost them £773:12:2 Sterl. He says he could not send 200 more, But they are not wanted as the 200 for the Independants will make up the Number 800: I believe every thing is nearly ready that our Province is to provide for their Men, but how near they are complete I cannot hear. It is now about 7 oClock in the Morning and I have nothing very material to add, but that your Patent is ready for the Seal. I wish I could say so of my own. I am Dr. Sir
your most obedt. hble. Servant.

GW BANYAR

GENERAL JOHNSON

ADDRESSED: To Major General Johnson at Mount Johnson

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: N York June 1st. 1755 Banyars letter.

TO GOLDSBROW BANYAR

Df.²

[June 2^d 1755³]

I am much obliged to you for y^r hints that the Gov^r., the Gentⁿ. of the Council & Mr. Kennedy in particular were surprized *I had not wrote a Line at least to acquaint them with the Dispositions of the Indians & how far I might rely on assistance from them.* And I take in good part your Observation thereon. You must give me leave to say, I think I have reason to be amazed

¹ Letter.

² In handwriting of P. Wraxall. Reply to Banyar's letter of May 27, 1755, and drafted on last page of that letter, q. v.

³ See Banyar to Johnson, June 10, 1755.

at those Gentlemens Surprize. did I not write Mr. DeLancey in mine of the 16 May, That I had had a Meeting with the Two Mohock Castles, & that from my private Conversations with some of their Sachems, I judged they were well disposed & would give their favourable Influence to others — that I was about sending an Invitation to the other Nations to meet me here as soon as possible — This is all I did know or shall know till the 6 Nations meet me in a Body & I open matters to them in a particular Manner.

When I gave this Information what just reason could any Gentⁿ. have for supposing I with held any useful Intelligence I could give — and to be surprized I did not give more, carries with it an Imputation of very little attention on their side, or an opinion of me as void of Candor as it is of Truth. As to my general Sentiments with regard to bringing the Indians into our Measures, they already knew them, and I also repeated them in the Second Paragraph of my Letter to Gov^r. Shirley w^{ch}. was extracted into mine to Mr. DeLancey — what more they would have or what they mean by their Surprize or Suggestions, for my part I cannot comprehend.

What you say is right, & I shall continue to give this Gov^t. every Intelligence relating to Indian Affairs w^h. is of any Moment either to this Province in particular or to the general Interest, but to transmit exact Copies of all Transactions, I have not hands to do it, nor do I think it my Duty, in this particular Manner I am accountable only to the Crown & to Gen^l. Braddock if he requires it.

INDORSED: N York May 27th 1755
Banyars letter & part
of my Answer to him

TO JAMES DE LANCEY

Df.¹Mount Johnson 2^d. June 1755.

SIR

Seth the head Sachem of the Indians living near Schohere & the leading Sachems of the upper & lower Mohock Castles, have made heavy Complaints to me of the White People in those parts selling Rum to the Indians, represented the ill Consequences thereof and prayed that it may be prevented.

Your Honour I persuade myself is sensible this Selling of Rum to the Indians, has been ever attended with fatal Consequences to the public Interest with them & at this juncture must be more than commonly detrimental.

If an Act of the Legislature cannot be obtained to prohibit this Sale of Rum to the Indians without any limitation of Time, I do in the most earnest manner request your Honour that you will apply to the Assembly to form an Act with such pains & penalties against this Sale of Rum to the Indians during the present situation of public affairs, as may be (so far as possible) effectual to prevent it.² Unless such a Law is made & the Observance of it secured in the strongest manner, the general Interest in my humble Opinion will infallibly suffer, and those Measures now in Agitation for the Honour of His Majesty's Crown & the Security & welfare of His Subjects in these parts, be greatly embarrassed.

I am with great Respect Sir

Y^r honours Most obed^t hum serv^t

¹In handwriting of P. Wraxall. Printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2: 656-57; Q, 2:382-83.

²July 5, 1755 Governor De Lancey gave his assent to an act "to prohibit the sale of rum or any other strong Liquors to any Indian or Indians within the City or County of Albany, excepting at the trading House at Oswego; and to prevent the buying, exchanging or taking in pawn, of or from any of the said Indians, any arms, ammunition or clothing."—*Journal of the Legislative Council of New York*, p. 1207.

P S:¹ there should be a Clause in y^e. Act to prevent any Persons buying their Arms, Amunition, Cloathing &ca or exchanging.

To Gov^r DELANCEY

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: June 2^d. 1755

Coppy of a Letter to Gov^r. Delancey
Concerning Rum sold to y^e. Indians

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

New York 3^d. June 1755

DEAR SIR

In my last I acquainted you with the Arrival of Capt. Eyre, whose two Letters and yours of the 29 ult: were this Morning laid before the Council, urging the necessity of making an Addition to the Train of artillery The Result of the Application Cap^t. Eyre will shew you as he has a Copy of the Minute. I am really concerned the 2 brass 18 pounders were not added to the other as well as that the Credit of the other Governments did not prevail with our Government to lend them a suff^t. quantity of Powder to try them, which wo'd amount to the prodigious Sum I think of £9 or £10 at most. You are not like to have the least Necessary for the Cannon but from the Colonies who are to provide the Train and who I am astonish'd have not yet taken any Step about it that we know of especially for Carriages which they cannot make without knowing the dimensions of the Cannon. As to a quarter Master General, the Lord knows who is to appoint or can be appointed. If nobody else does, I think when the Forces are together, you will find it absolutely Necessary to appoint as well as other necessary officers. You know my disposition and how much I would do, if any thing in my Power could add a Mite to the Good of the Service. I have mentioned many

¹ Postscript in handwriting of Johnson.

things & shall again. After the greatest Caution many things will I am perswaded be found wanting after your March, & therefore nothing now thought of should be left unsupplied.

Your Patent was sealed this day, and if you can, pray dont forget to get a deed from the Parties. I shall send you up a draft of it or the Copy of the Bound^s. to draw it by the next opportunity. I cant help taking Notice before I conclude how obliging Cap^t. Eyre was, tho unasked by the Governor, in giving his opinion & directions about our Fortifications, which I'm perswaded if followed will be of great use.

If you can possibly do any thing to forward the Survey of Magin's Land you'l particularly oblige me, as you must sensible from my mentioning it so often. Cap^t. Eyre will inform you of the arrival of a Captain of the Train & a number of Matrosses, a few of whom the General might spare I think if they could join you time Enough. My best wishes attend you as I am with the greatest Sincerity

your obliged Friend & obed^t. Servant,

GW BANYAR

I know you've but little time but
you write with a swift Hand.

GENERAL JOHNSON

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: June 3^d. 1755

Banyars letter ¶ Cap^{tn}. Ayres.

FROM STEPHEN WEBSTER

A. L. S.

Albany June 5^d 1755

HONERD SIR

These Coms with my most Humbl Regards to you and your good famely

Sir I am by ordr of his Exelency y^e Govner W: Shirley Sent hear to Over see y^e Carpendrs from New England to Buld Batos and any other Carpendr Business which your Honor Shall

Thinck fit I have by y^e asistenc of M^r Sandrs and M^r E ton¹
proCured Stuf Surfsint to buld to y^e amount of 200 Battos and
Expct 50 or 60 Carpendrs to be here in a Day or 2 as y^e Come
from Boston Last Tuesday fortinight and Sir you may
depend on all despatch that I Can maek in y^t Regard.

Sir I hope if It Suts your Hon^r Intrest I Shall See your Hon^r
heer Sum time y^e Begining of nex week when I Shall Taek Both
advce and directons how to prseed

Sir I am your Honrs

most Humbl and Most oBedend Sarvnt

STEPHEN WEBSTER

ADDRESSED: To Lieu^t. General Johnson
att Mount Johnson

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: June 5th. 1755
M^r. Websters letter

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

New York 6 June 1755.

SIR

My last went with Captain Eyre from whom I dare say you
will receive all the assistance you can expect from an able
Engineer for besides the Theory I understand he has seen a good
deal of Service, & hence I judge him to be qualifed equal to
your most sanguine wishes. Gov^r. Shirley has again applyed
by Lre reced yesterday for the 2 brass 18 pounders, only four
of the Council were present & two being against it, the Council
broke up with^t coming to any Conclusion, he says he'll send
us back 2 of the iron 18 fl that were left behind by Col.
Moncton,² and 2 24 fl from Castle William.³ He writes that

¹ Blotted in the manuscript.

² Lieutenant Colonel Robert Monckton, of the 57th regiment, after-
ward colonel of the 60th and later of the 17th regiment, and in 1761
major general. In that year he was governor of the province of New York.

³ A fortress on Castle island in Boston harbor.

he hopes their Forces will move in 14 days which expired yesterday, it will even be an agreeable disappointment to me if they shou'd be in motion in a week from this time: In short none of the Governors or any body else write how forward things are to the Eastward, and if you can I shall be oblig'd to you for any Information on that Head: The Person who had a Warrant to raise a Company on long Island has declined, not being able to complete one and the Warrant will be given to a Person in Dutches who I cant tell. I fancy it will be sent blank to be fill'd up in the Name of the Person most likely to succeed.

I hear Gov^r. Shirley's Regiment will be at Albany next Week. By the latest Accounts the French Ambassador had actually left England, refusing only to agree to one of the Articles, that of delivering two Princes of the Blood as Hostages. Well said Monsieur Puff: So we may hourly expect if this be the Case to hear of a Warr, the Brest Squadron was not sailed, and part of the English were out.

It is impossible I think my Letters could have reach'd you, or I must have had an Answer from you I may venture to say this is at least the 6 or 7th and I expected when you wrote me on the 20, my first at least was come to hand but you mention nothing of it. I should be glad to know what Letters you have reced from me. I sent you two ~~£~~re from Shuckburgh & another Letter from London, one John Harper carried the last ~~£~~re & one of the former as nearly as I can remember, with the Mutiny Act, and Mr. Colden tells me you say your Letters from London are not come to hand. I sent your Acts, Sylvestre's Examination, & by my last Extracts of the Votes. I acknowledge I have been very pressing on you concerning Magin's Land, imagining it was in your Power only to prevail with the Indians to have it survey'd out of hand, & I wrote to him about it, by Harper I think, but I hear nothing except that Mr. Magin is at Albany, and I shall cease giving myself any further trouble in an Affair which I now fear is intirely out of my Power to accomplish, from what fatality I cannot tell, but there have been a number of difficulties I had not the least Apprehension of.

I have given your Patent the finishing Stroke, and as it is I think a matter of some Consequence to you, would advise you to get the inclosed deeds ingrossed out of hand, while the Parties are on the Spott. If you can get them all to sign, it will do as it is, otherwise it must be altered according to the other you have for Stevens's Purchase; you'll avoid the Contractions in the drafts. I scarcely think it worth while to make their Wives Parties, especially if you have a declaration of Trust. But if you are apprehensive of any future trouble on that Account, it may now be Easily avoided.

I wrote the above in the Morning At 11 there was a Council, & with some difficulty its agreed to let Mr. Shirley have the lightest of the two 18 pounders Brass.

In a Letter from Mr. Shirley of the 25 Ult^o. he desires the Governour to put a Stop to the Intercourse between the French Indians & Albany, & to secure those now there until Affairs will permit their Return, and refers to Extracts of two Letters one from yourself the other from Mr. Alexander, but sends neither of the Extracts. The Council advise that Para¹ of Mr. Shirleys Letter be sent to you for you to give your Sentiments upon it. This is all I can acquaint you of at present that is material, and indeed were I to put the Natural Construction on your Silence it would oblige me to lay down my Pen in good earnest but I allow a good deal for your present Avocations of so publick & interesting a nature, & will readily admit the Account of your Success at the intended Meeting of the Indians in full discharge of the many Letters you have yet left unanswered. I am Dr. Coll.

your most obed^t. hble. Servant

GW. BANYAR

Mr. Shirley has agreed that Mr. Lyman (of Conn^t.) shall be the 2^d officer & takes a great deal of pains to perswade Gov^r. Delancey to agree to what he had before consented, and which Mr. Shirley must probably too have known Not a word of the

¹ This word used for paragraph was copied as "Part."

third officer; Jemmy Delancey has a Cap^{ts}. Commⁿ.¹ in Pepperell's which consists now I imagine of above 600: 2 Comp^s. of them go soon. I reckon the Mohawks will stare, tho I hear from I dont know who, they and the rest of the Nations are in good temper and well disposed to join us. Also that the General will have 6 or 700 — He is not marched yet on Account of the Virginians & Marylanders failing in performing their Contracts. If you think the other brass 18th worth asking for again I believe you may have it. I'll speak this afternoon to Mr. Harries about the Telescope. I send you the form of the Commⁿ., Mr. delancey will give the officers of our Forces, unless Mr. Hardy arrives before they are ready which is not improbable; & a Proclⁿ. to take up Deserters. the 7 Brass Cannon for Gov^r. Shirley will be ship'd to Morrow.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: New York June 6th 1755
Banyars letter.

TO JAMES DE LANCEY

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar by a letter of June 6th from Johnson to James DeLancey on forts to be built in the Indian country, a coming Indian conference and Captain Mathews's company (printed in *Doc. His. N. Y.*, 2:657–58; Q. 2:383–84). Not destroyed in the fire.

FROM COLDEN AND KELLY

A. L. S.

New York June 7th. 1755

COL. WILLIAM JOHNSON
S^r.

We've your two fav^{rs}. of the 28th. & One of the 29th. Ult^o. before us and Acknowledge ourselves Infinitely Oblig'd to you

¹Captain James De Lancey, eldest son of Lieutenant Governor De Lancey. He was afterward a captain in the 60th, and later in the 46th regiment, retiring from military service in 1760.

for the favour's you Intended us in Case we prosecuted the Scheme we Consulted you on which as you seem'd to be of Opinion woud not Answer have Declined & have now Sent you ₤ Cap^t. Peter Vosburgh One thousand w^t. Good Holland Gunpowder at £12 ₤ C^t. 100 of the lightest Gun's we cou'd get at 29/6 10 Barrel's pork at 70/ & 5 bls Beef at 50/ Coud not get the powder in half Barrels & believe you must think the Gun's Cheap as the same have been sold here at 36/ You've Inclos'd Bill's of Lading for the Furr's ₤ Van Antwerp also two Letter's which came to hand this day & if your Store's shoud not reach your hands timely you must not Impute Delay to us as we Rec^d. your fav^{rs}. ₤ Campbell but the 5th. Current about an Hour before Dusk & yesterday Compleated your Order's but no Sloop ready to Sail so tried them all who we coud not prevail on to go as they Expect mighty matter's by the Forces & Stores going up 'till we promis'd the Skipper mighty mater's if he woud Engage to go today which he Engages to do

We are S^r.

Your most obed^t. hble Serv^{ts}.

COLDEN & KELLY

P. S. We know not a person who we might trust (y^r. way) to Receive the Money therefore hope you'l send by some Safe hand 4 o'Clock A. M. the Sloop goes of this moment

ADDRESSED: To Col^o. William Johnson
at Mount Johnson
₤ Fav^r. of Cap^t. Petr. Vosburgh

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: June 7th. 1755
Colden & Kellys letter
with y^e. powder &^{ca}

FROM JAMES DE LANCEY

L. S.¹*New York 7th June 1755*

SIR

I directed M^r Banyar to send you an Account of the publick Proceedings. Your Letter of the 16th May I laid before the Assembly, their Votes shew'd what they were willing to do, but as I had not full Accounts from the Governments I ordered them to adjourn till next Tuesday in hopes by hearing from them to be able to finish Matters at this Meeting, for which purpose I will keep them sitting.

I inclose you two Paragraphs of Governor Shirley's Letter² of the 25th May to me, touching the Measures proper to be taken with the French Indians, which the Council have advised me to send to you to know your Sentiments upon it. How far it may be prudent to make them our Enemies at this time, you will consider, and be pleased to send me your thoughts upon the Matter, that I may lay them before the Council.

You will make my Compliments to Captains Eyre and Wraxall. I wish you full Success at your Interview with the Indians and desire that M^r. Wraxall will send an Account of your Proceedings with them from time to time. You will be pleased to let me know wherein I can be of Service to you or the Expedition you are engaged in, as you may be assured nothing in my Power shall be wanting I am Sir

Your most obedient & most humble Servant

JAMES DE LANCEY

GENERAL JOHNSON

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: New York, June 7th. 1755Gov^r. Delanceys Letter

¹ Body of letter in handwriting of Banyar.

² See Shirley to De Lancey, May 25, 1755.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 34 by a report of a committee of the Massachusetts general court on pay of General Johnson and expenses of the Indian service, June 7 (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:667-68; Q, 2:389-90). Not destroyed in the fire.

FROM ALEXANDER COLDEN¹

A. L. S.

New York 8th June 1755

S^R

When you was last here I intended to have waited on you with your Certificate (after I had Signed it) and taken my leave of you as I was then going out of Town, but M^r Banyar told me you was out with the Gov^r & as the Sloop I was going in was ready to sail, was obliged to leave town without doing my self that pleasure. When I was at my Fathers I told him that I Suposed his fees for your Patent would be paid to M^r Banyar. My Father expecting it would be so has Since (having some shop Debts to pay in Town) Drawn on me for the money, I have accept'd his order, and shall be obliged to you either to order the money to me, or to Draw on my Partner & Self payable to my father or his order for the Sum Due to him for his fees & which I have paid, which is £108, as it is Inconvenient to me at this time to advance it out of my own private Stock & yet I could

¹ Alexander Colden, eldest son of the Lieutenant Governor, was born, we presume, in Philadelphia, in 1716, and in 1737 was appointed ranger of the county of Ulster, N. Y., which then included "Coldenham," a small district of country about midway between Newburgh and the village of Montgomery, in the present town of Montgomery, Orange county, N. Y., where his father had property, and where Alexander kept a country store, at which the early settlers of the town and those west to Shawangunk mountains were in the habit of trading. He was appointed joint surveyor general with his father in 1751, succeeded to that office in 1762, and was postmaster of New York until his death. . . . Alexander Colden died in New York in 1775, in the 59th year of his age.—*Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 8:221.

not refuse answering my fathers Draft on me having acted Contrary to his General Orders which were not to Sign any Certificates 'till I had rec^d his fees

Miller not yet Arrived, nor no Particular News Stirring further then what you'll See in the prints, I am Sr

Y^r Very humble Serv^t

ALEX^R COLDEN

WILLIAM JOHNSON Esq

ADDRESSED: To The Hon^{ble} William Johnson Esq
at Mount Johnson Albany

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: June 8th. 1755
Colden & Kellys letter

TO COLDEN AND KELLY

A. Df.

Albany June 9th. 1755.

GENTLEMEN

I hope you have Shipped the quantity of powder, pork &ca I wrote for Some time ago, as I have now an Imediate call for it. please to Send me also ¶ first Sloop, 300 Bushels of Indian Corn without bags. Be so good to get me a verry good Tent made for my own Use of the best Stuff to keep out rain, and not very heavy ask the advice of Some of the officers there ab^t. it, who are used to those things. I want a Couple of other good Tents for my own attendants. Those should be made directly, & Sent up. I must have good poles &ca. for my own Tent. the others can be made here. There are many Articles I shall Want presently if the governments engaged will provide for my Expences, as I expect they will.

My great concern is, that Every thing seems so backward. I am gentlemen

Y^r. Verry Humble Serv^t.

Pray Send me a Rheam of good writeing paper a parcel of good Quills & a Dozen of the best Ink powder.

P. S. I shall want as much narrow Silver lace, as will lace a lapelled Coat, and a Weast coat, pray let it be of the genteelest you Can get there about an Inch broad, also 3 Dozen of white Buttons for y^e. Coat, & 2½ Dozen for y^e. Jacket, that is Your plain or wrought gilt Buttons, also as much green thin Velvit, as will Serve to lappel & Cuff two Coats, and as much green Allapaca or other green light Stuff as will Serve to line the two Coats & Weast coat.

MESS^{RS}. COLDEN & KELLY

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Albany June 9th. 1755. Coppy of a letter to Mess^{rs}. Colden & Kelly

J. WHEELWRIGHT'S LIST OF SUPPLIES¹

A. D. S.

Provided, and Providing per the Committee of War, for Crown Point Expedition,² to be sent in 2 Transport Sloops of 80 Tons each. . . Viz^t.

1 Morter of 13 Inch	} 1000 Shells {	suff ^t . ³
1 Brass 1 Ditto 10 Inch		
one at 1 Royal 7 Inch		

Albany

3 Beds for Morters

1 Hoit⁴ 7 Inch, & 100 Iron Shott

2 hh^{ds}. of proper Wadding

20 oz of Sheep Skins

1000 Fuzees, sorted, 100 Fuze's wanting for the Brass Mortar at Albany 8 1/2³

12 Rheam of Cannon Cartridge paper

¹ Inclosed in Shirley to Johnson, June 9, 1755. There are three other copies of this list. Two were injured by the fire. The third is well preserved.

² Supplies of Massachusetts.

³ Inserted by Wraxall.

⁴ Howitzer.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 250 bbs. of Cannon Powder | } wantg.
200 Barrells more of Cannon Powder ¹ |
| 150 bbs. of Pistol Ditto | |
| 20 M of Flints | |
| 400 Small arms | |
| 1200 Cartouch Boxes | |
| 1500 powder flasks | |
| 1300 Powder Horns | |
| 375 Tin Kittles | |
| 1500 Worms, & 1500 Wiers, | |
| 1500 Knapsacks & Bullett Pouches | |
| 33 Drums | |
| 1420 Hatchetts | |
| 215 Bill Hooks | |
| 265 Tents, Pins, Malletts &c. | |
| 3 Large for y ^e 3 Colonels. | |
| 384 Shovells | |
| 200 Spades | |
| 100 Pick axes, | |
| 1000 Wood axes, | |
| 36 Broad axes, | |
| 30 Adzes, | |
| 50 Iron Wedges | |
| 50 Rings for Beetles | |
| 1 Smiths Travelling Forge & Materials | |
| 2 Setts of Blacksmiths Tools, | |
| 1 Chaldron of Coal, | |
| 4 p ^r . of Large | } Steelyards. |
| 4 p ^r . Small | |
| 4 Setts of Tin measures | |
| 4 Doz ⁿ . Large horn Lanthorns | |
| 4 Doz ⁿ . Muscova Ditto | |
| 12 Setts of Hammers, Trowells &c. for y ^e . Masons | |
| 15 Setts of Carpenters Tools | |
| 12 Whip saws & files | |

¹ Inserted by Wraxall.

- 6 Cross Cutt Saws & files
- 10 Boxes of Candles
- 20 Jarrs of Oil for Small arms,
- 20 fl wt of Twine for Sundry Uses
- 20 Grindstones fix't
- Want^g 3 Casks Nails sorted for building Fortifications¹
- 100 Whett Stones
- 2 Casks 10^d Nails
- 1 Cask 20^d D^o
- 1 Cask 24 D^o } for y^e Battoes
- 200 Battoes, of Several Sizes, want^g. 100 Battoes for the Train
- 2 doz Padlocks Hasps, & Staples
- 73 Painted Canvases for Covering Provisions & Ammunition in the Battoes.
- 1500 wt of Oakum
- 10 bbs Pitch 2 h^{hd} fish Quoils of Match
- 5 bbs Tar 10 bbs Ginger
- 28 fl flax 3 bbs Sugar
- 24 Scains of Tar'd Marline
- 24 Scains of White Ditto
- 60 fathom of 4 inch Rope for Draw^g. Cannon
- 10 fathom of 5 Inch for Gun strings
- 30 Iron Crows & Crab Hand spikes
- 400 Iron — Cannon Shott
- 100 wt German Steel Wating 1000 Shot for 18fl^s.
- 50 O. O. Bullets, besides wt. at Albany
- 6 Bed pans, 600 Shot for 32fl^s.
- 600 d^o for 12fl^s.
- 400 d^o for 6fl.
- 2400fl of Musket Ball for Field P^s.¹
- 6 Close stool pans
- 50 Single Beds & Pillows fill'd

¹ Inserted by Wraxall.

50 p^r. Sheets,
 150 Single Beds & Pillows unfill'd
 1500 Spoons,
 150 Bowles
 150 platters
 3 Horses & a small Cart to Carry the Tools,
 Provisions of several Sorts.
 Y^r. Excellency's humble Servant,
 J^o WHEELWRIGHT

Sundrys sent in a Cart, per Land for the Battoe Men

20 Broad Axes
 10 Adzes
 1 Cross Cut Saw
 3 Shaves
 25 Small Armes
 1 Whip Saw 18 Caulk^s Irons 3 Narrow D^o 12 Hand
 Saws
 6 Fore plains, 1 smoothing plain, 12 Hammers
 5 doz Gimblets, 6 doz Lines, 1 doz Compasses, 12 two
 foot Rules
 12 half round Files, 6 plain Irons 3 Broad Chizzles
 48 Carto Boxes
 48 Knapsacks
 1/2 C^t Bullets
 400 Flints
 30 powder Horns
 48 8/4 Blankets
 20 powder

Not yet provided Viz.¹

100 lb Sheet Lead for Aprons for Cannon
 2. hand screws
 1. Ginn
 6 Rammers & Spunges for 18 lb.

¹ The list that follows is in Wraxall's hand.

- 6 Ladles & worms for d°.
- 8 Rammers sponges, Ladles & worms for 8 field p°.
- 6 fl.
- 2. d° d° d° for 32 fl.
- 2. d° d° d° for 12 fl.
- 18 priming Horns & Wires for Cannon
- 20 Leather Bucketts for d°.
- 200. hand Granades ready at Albany
- Fuse's for the Same to be provided
- 500 fl Barr Iron
- 2 Smiths & pay.

INDORSED: Sundrys provided by
the Committee of War
for Crown Point Expedition.

GOLDSBROW BANYAR'S LIST OF SUPPLIES¹

A. D.

[New York, June 24, 1755]

One of the four copies of the preceding list is certified in these words:
"Examd. Gw Banyar D Secry," and is followed by this list in Banyar's
handwriting.

Providing by New York

- 10 Carriages with Limbers for the 2.32 pounders, 6 Eighteen
pdrs & two 12 pounders.
- 400 Cannon Ball for 32 pounders, 1200 for 18fl, 400 for 12fl
& 400 for 6fl
- 50 Rounds of Grape Shott for the Feild Pieces: if to be got.
- 42 Ladles, Sponges & Rammers suitable to the Cannon &
Feild Pieces
- 14 priming Hornes with Wires. 6 Linstocks. 2 Callebar
Compasses
- 4 Formers. 2 Wadhooks. 2 Handscrews. 2 tin Powder
Fillers

¹ Inclosed in Banyar to Johnson, June 24, 1755.

1 pair brass Weights and Scales. 100 weight sheet Lead for aprons
 10 Crow Bars. 20 Crab Handspikes. 1 Gin. 20 leather Buckets
 2 Bouge Barrels. 2 Baskets for conveying Wadds. 56ll lashing Rope for Mortars 3 Inch white. 6 Tann'd Hides (for Men's Harnes)
 100 pickaxes. 1 Barrel Tallen.¹ 300 weight of Bar Iron sorted.
 [10 Batoes for carrying the Cannon ordered to be built at Albany]

INDORSED BY BANYAR List of Stores provided by
 the Massachusetts Bay for
 the Expedition to Crown
 Point.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

New York 10th: June 1755.

DEAR SIR

I just this moment received your Letters of the 2^d. June & *that* you have by mistake dated on the 9th. I am very sorry at the uneasiness my Letter must have given you, as to your having neglected giving Accounts of the Indians &c when I wrote that, not one of yours had come to the Governors Hands, but yours of the 16th. was delivered the next day, which gave the Governor & Council a good deal of Satisfaction. I informed you it was laid before the Assembly & sent you an Extract of their Votes: They will I hope now give a Sum towards your Expences, it does not proceed from their Backwardness that they have not done it but they wait till the Massachusetts shews them the way &

¹ Tallow?

fix the Sum. The Gov^r. now has sent his Chair¹ for me so I must be very short. The Massachusetts have agreed that Gov. Shirley employ as many of the Crown Point Forces at Niagara as he thinks proper (besides Jersey 500) Provided the former go 3700 Exclusive of Indians, that they go voluntarily & that the transporting such, & victualling them be not attended with any Expence to that Government. The principal Reasons they urge for this measure are briefly, The Importance of Niagara, w^{ch} with its Consequences may deprive the French of their Indians & the Fur Trade, & make Canada scarce worth their keeping. That the attack of Niagara, of which they presume the French must have had Accounts, or will have time Enough to send Succours thither, will draw away a considerable part of that Force, which might otherwise oppose you, & if you should want a greater Force after you are there it may be soon sent, the Army intrenching & securing themselves in the mean time. The Reasons are not so convincing to me as to justify the Measure because I cant conceive how the French can send so great a Force that way. The Massachusetts presume those upon the Ohio will abandon their Forts & proceed to Niagara: If this proves to be the Case, & Gen^l Braddock cannot follow them, it is a good Reason. However the Gov^r & Council here have agreed to it on the like Restrict^s. the Massachusetts have.

Phineas Lyman one of the Conn^t Colonels is fixed on for the 2^d. officer: the third M^r DeLancey has complimented M^r Shirley with & has mentioned to him the appointment of a q^r. M^r. Gen^l. And has mentioned also that we shall have 60 Batoes to spare which may be used for the Train. That a larger supply of Gun Powder will be wanting now the Train is increased by 2 32 pdrs & 2 12 pdrs — Ball, Shells, Carriages &c & desired to know in what forwardness these things are. It is the Eastern Gov^{ts}. that are to provide the Train, & they must direct the making the Carriages: the two 32 pdrs are to be proved

¹Probably a two-wheeled carriage, such as a chaise or a gig. See an illustration in Lamb and Harrison's *History of the City of New York*, 3:481.

today. I sent you a ~~L~~re yesterday from the Gov^r. inclosing an order for such additional Field Pieces as you may want, & before that I wrote to you inclosing you the draft of your Deeds the Patent being sealed. Mr. Colden desires you'd send him an order for paying his Father's Fees which I think I told you was £12 beyond the £4 ~~Ⓕ~~ 1000. Mr. Harries will only part with the Telescope for the prime Cost which is 5 Guineas he says. If you will have it let me know & i'll give him the Money & send it. I wrote to Magin again I plainly see it is his Fault. Gen^l. Braddock has not marched nor will march till he has the Necessaries Forage & Refreshments for themselves they want. The've found out a new Road & will soon be there after their March. I need not exhort you to be patient, I know your Temper, & hope things will turn out better than their present aspect promises. The Col. Mr. Cockroft¹ & Dr. Middleton² will have their Com^s. today or tomorrow & be ordered to join you immediately. You may be assured nothing in my power shall be wanting to forward the Service or to convince with how great Sincerity I am Dr. S^r

Your obligd Friend & very hble Serv^t

GW BANYAR

My comp^{ts} to Cap^{ts}. Eyre &
Wraxall

I am obliged to you for the Cop^s. of the 2 Com^s.

The Men will I think be intitled to both Pay & Prov^s. from the day of Inlistment but beyond all doubt from their Muster & the Capt^s. may subsist 'em till the Commissary arrives which will be soon & receive the prov^s of him afterwards. This is at least my Opinion.

10 oClock 10 June

ADDRESSED: To Major General William Johnson at Albany or
Mount Johnson.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: June 10th. 1755
Banyars letter

¹ Colonel William Cockcroft, of New York regiment.

² Dr Peter Middleton, of New York regiment.

FROM WILLIAM ALEXANDER

A. L. S.

New York June 11th 1755

DEAR SIR

On your informing me at Albany that you was Apprehensive that it would give Offence to the Indians to build any Storehouses on the Carrying Place between the Mohawks River and Wood Creek without their Consent, I desired Mr Petri of Burnetsfield to suspend the Building of two Storehouses, one on each end of that Carrying Place, which I had Directed him to Build by Order of Gov^r: Shirley, You at the same time was pleased to Promise me, you would use your Endeavours to Obtain their Consent, which I have no Reason to doubt you have before this time, if you have, be pleased to forward the inclos'd Letter to Mr Johan Jost Petri in which (as it is open for that purpose you will see) I have desired him to proceed immediately in building those houses I am Sir with great Esteem.

Your Most Humble Serv^t.W^m. ALEXANDERMAJOR GEN^L JOHNSON

ADDRESSED: To Major General Johnson att
Mount Johnson.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: June 11th 1755. W^m. Alexanders
letter

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

New York 11th. June 1755.

SIR

I now send to Captain Mathews his Commⁿ. and those of his two Lieutenants: Mr. Verplank I believe will not accept of the Paymastership, but that Matter will be settled by tomorrow:

Col. Cockroft's Commⁿ. is made out & Dr. Middletons, the former will set out with the Arms &c Sunday or Monday next & the doctor as soon as he is ready. I delivered Mr. Dies this Morning an Order to provide Timber for Carriages (such as I described to you) for 2 thirty two pdrs six 18 pdrs & 2, 12 pdrs, & if the other Governments sho'd not order any to be made here or at Albany (for I think they cant be made any where else) by the time the Timber is cut which will be I am told 5 or 6 days, the Governor will I think order them to be proceeded on, But they will not be parted with, unless the Cash be laid down. I am in hopes this step may save some time: Let me know pray if they are providing them otherwise. Adieu & believe me to be Dr. Sir

Your obliged humble serv^t.

GW BANYAR

6 oClock P M.

ADDRESSED: To Major General Johnson
at Albany

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: June 11th. 1755
Banyars letter

JOHNSON'S PROCLAMATION FORBIDDING SALE OF SPIRITUOUS
LIQUORS TO INDIANS

*Df.*¹

June 11, 1755

By the Honourable Major General Johnson One of His Majestys Council for the Province of New York & sole Superintendent of all Affairs relating to the Indians of the Six united Nations & their Allies.

Whereas I expect the Six Nations & other Indians down hither to meet me on Affairs of the utmost Consequence to the

¹ In handwriting of P. Wraxall.

Welfare of his Majesty's Dominions on this Continent in general & of this Province in particular. I do hereby in His Majesties name warn all Manner of Persons whatsoever from selling or giving to any of the said Indians in their Passage down to my House or in their Return any Rum or other Spirituous Liquors, And I do hereby give this public notice that whoever shall be discovered to sell or give any Spirituous Liquors to any of the said Indians shall be prosecuted by His Majesty's Attorney General as Enemies to the public Welfare of their Country.

Given under my hand & Seal at Mount Johnson
this Eleventh day of June 1755

By the Generals Command

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: June 10th. 1755

Coppy of a Kind of proclamation forbidding Selling liquor to the Indians.

FROM COLDEN AND KELLY

A. L. S.¹

New York 12th June 1755

S^r.

[]is Moment Miller Arrived by whom came the Inclosed under Cover to us from M^r Baker We wrote to you the 7th Inst and Sent by Peter Vosburgh the Powder, Guns, Beaf & Pork you order'd which hope came safe to hand and prove to your liking. As we were not acquainted with any Person at Albany in whom we could Confide did not Chuse to Draw on you for the Amount of those Goods, but desired you to Send the Money to us by some Safe hand. We have since been informed M^r Oliver DeLancey has Money in his hands to remit to you in which Case your Draft on him in our favour will we doubt not be duely honour'd. If you think proper to draw

¹ Of Alexander Colden.

on him it will prevent you the trouble of sending the money & running the risque of it

We are Sr.

Y^r Very Oblidged humble Serv^{ts}

COLDEN & KELLY

P S The Snow Chance

Captⁿ Fell Sailed this day

ADDRESSED: To The Honbl^e William Johnson Esq
At Albany

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Colden & Kellys letter
June 12th. 1755

TO THOMAS POWNALL

Df.¹

June 12th 1755.

DEAR SIR

Mr. Kelly delivered me your Favour w^{ch} you sent here by him. Upon your recommendation I took notice of him & advised & assisted him in his Journey to the Indians, & from the same Motive I should have extended my Patronage to him, had he continued in the Scheme of life you mention, but I find he depended upon an Invitation given him in a way of Ceremony by one Indian who was at Philadelphia, that his Father hath not provided him with money for his Subsistance, & indeed he tells me that his circumstances will not afford it. The Indian who invited him is [*at present out a hunting*²] not yet returned, but if he was at home I am pretty sure his expectations would be disappointed. I have told him that as I expect the greatest part of the Mohock Indians will go out along with me, it will be an improper time for him to stay at their Castles to learn their Language, & I have offered to subsist him if he will go along with them by w^{ch}

¹ In handwriting of P. W^raxall.

² Erased in original manuscript.



Life sized

THOMAS POWNALL Esq
Late Governor, Captain General and
 of His Majesty's Province of Massachusetts Bay



MEMBER of PARLIAMENT,
 Commander in Chief, *and Vice Admiral*
 & South Carolina, *Adjut. General* of N. York

London, Printed for R. Sayer & J. Bennett 27 & 28 Fleet Street

as the Act directs 1766

Pownall

means he may make him self known & beloved by them: this he declines & says he dos not choose to run the risque of his Life unless he is paid for it. He is now returning home & I send this Letter by him. As you have interested your self on this Young Mans behalf, I thought it necessary to trouble you with the above Detail.

In a few days I expect the Six Nations down here upon the Summons I have sent them. What will be the Event of that Meeting, the result can only make Certain, but I hope & flatter my self it will be favorable to the common Cause.

I wish the several Provinces had adjusted their Quotas towards the Expedition w^{ch} I am to have the honour to Conduct, that the Preparations were carried on with more Spirit & that all matters relative to it were put on a more firm & orderly footing. I dread those Delays, that Confusion & those altercations, w^{ch} are Consequences but too natural to so divided a System, has often been fatal & may once more be so to the general Cause.

I am beset on all sides with Business, but I will endeavour to snatch some Opportunity of indulging my self in writing to you again when Subject matter may offer.

With my best wishes to you

I am Dear Sir &c.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: June 12th. 1755.

Coppy of a letter to Tho^s. Pownall Esq^r.

TO JAMES DE LANCEY

*Df. S.*¹

Mount Johnson 13 June 1755

SIR

This Moment I received Information from some Mohock Indians that this morn^g they had met 8 or 10 Annogongue Indians laying on the Watch within about 2 Miles of my House on this

¹ Body of letter in handwriting of P. Wraxall.

side the River, who also informed them that another party of about 10 were lurking near Albany on the opposite side of the River. I directly dispatched Orders to Col^l Glen¹ & Col^l Rentzelaer² to send Two partys from each of their Battallions on the Scout about their respective districts, also a brisk officer & 30 picked Men to cut off the Indians retreat to their Canoes. Sent fifteen of My own People In quest of them & am in hopes they may come up with them ere the Militia Join them Who live so scattered that it must require some time to get them together.³

I have heard of no Mischief as yet but I dread I soon may this will drive all the rem^g.⁴ out Inhabitants from their Settlements And I hope it will rouse up the Indignation & Spirit of this Colony in particular as well as the Neighbouring ones to act with that Vigorous & generous unanimity in the Intended measures against our implacable (& if they would do so) I might add our Contemptible Enemies. If unhappily a narrow Spirit of frugality & the altercations of Discord should retard or defeat the Schemes w^{ch}. have been agreed upon, surely we shall appear infamous in the Eyes of the World & be looked upon as the last of human kind. I am most respectfully Sir

Y^r Honours Most Obed^t. & most hum Serv^t.

⁵P S I yesterday rec^d. a letter from the Interpreter, then at the german Flatts, He writes me that there is a verry large Body of the Six Nations comeing on my Summons, I expect them in a day or two — Also a great Number from the Southward.

W. J^o

GOV^r DELANCEY

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: June 13th. 1755

Coppy of my letter to Gov^r. Delancey

¹ Lieutenant Colonel Jacob Glen, of Schenectady.

² Lieutenant Colonel John Van Rensselaer, of Greenbush.

³ This last sentence added in handwriting of Johnson.

⁴ Remaining.

⁵ Postscript in handwriting of Johnson.

⁶ L. S. in New York Public Library.

FROM WILLIAM EYRE

A. L. S.

*Albany 13th. June 1755.*S^r.

This Morning at Nine I got safe here, and hope the bearer carries with him full Power to Settle all our Affairs. I am inform'd the Connecticut Troops are to be here tuesday or Wednesday next, how certain this News May be, I cannot say, but Lotterage tells it for a Truth.

The Boats I find Will not be done in the time that Wepster Mentioned; he tells me he cannot do above 6 or 7 a Day, altho' he has been augmented in y^e. Number of his Workmen lately.

Governor Shirley's People are soon to be here, & his Boats are going up upon Waggon's to Skennextedy, I met a good Meny going there this Morning. My Comp^s. to y^r. good family I am Sir

Y^r. Most bd^t hu: Serv^t

WILL: EYRE

ADDRESSED: Major Gen^l. Johnson
at Mount Johnson

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: June 13th. 1755
a Letter from Captⁿ. Eyre

FROM BENJAMIN STODDERT

A. L. S.

Harkermans¹ June 13th: 1755

SIR

I arrived here Yesterday afternoon with a great Number of Indians, and thought to have proceeded this Day to your House, but was desired this Morning by the Sachems and Fighters to wait and go down in Company wth: them, and to oblige them have complied with their request, so that I expect that I shall be

¹ Herkimer.

detain'd a Day or Two at Least till the Indians come together, as this was the place agreed upon among themselves to meet at and then go down in a Body to your House. You may depend on my making the greatest dispatch and with the utmost care I Possibly can.

The Indians appear in extream good Humour, and mightily pleased at your having solely the Superintendantsy of their affairs. Excuse this rough Scroll and Believe me to be as ever Sir

Your most Obliged Humble Ser^t

B: STODDERT

P. S. For Particulars refer you to Capt. Stevens who says his Bussiness require his Immediate attendance below

B: S.

ADDRESSED: To The Hon^{ble}.

General Johnson Esq^r. Mount

Johnson $\&$ favour of Capt.

Stevens

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: June 13th. 1755

Stodderts letter from Harkemers.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

New York 14 June 1755: 6 oClock A M.

DEAR SIR

I send you with the Person you desired to call on me for the Telescope, a Glass Mr Kennedy bought at S^r. Danvers's Vendue, which is an extreme good one. Mr Dies has promised me to bring Mr Harries's Telescope to the office this Morning, to show me, as he says, how little difference there is, add to this the difficulty attending the use of the latter, which is of no Service used in the Hand, but must be fixd on a Stand, however this which Mr. Kennedy lends you, may be of use, if you purchase the other. I wrote to you if you approved of paying 5 Gu^s.¹ for it I'd send it.

¹ Guineas.

Gov. Shirley in a Letter which come by Express on the 12th. refers to Resolves abt your allowance, Pay of Officers for the Indians, & the Expense of engaging the five Nat^s. in the Expedition, but does not inclose them, which is a very great disappointment as our Assembly hardly wait for any thing else: They talk of adjourning for a Week, and to leave the Bill they have before them open, & then to add whatever is necessary. The Governor has warmly recommended the passing a Bill to prevent selling of Rum to the Indians, but I wish as you have so well pointed out the Mischief you had pointed out a particular Remedy. An old act I saw makes the forfeiture 5*£* for selling it to Indians in the City & County of Albany, & empowers the Magistrates to call before them suspected Persons and oblige them to purge themselves by oath.¹ Mr Shirley on the repeated Notice our Governor has taken of the Train says in his Letter above, he will inclose by the to-night's Post a Copy of the Articles the Committee of War are providing. I suppose he'll send the same to you the 2 32 pdrs are proved & are very good. the 2 12 pdrs will be proved this day. The timber for Carriages is expected to morrow or next day, and if the Commee are not getting the proper Carriages made, I shall I believe be very importunate to get them put in hand: Our Government absolutely are not to be blamed in this particular: the Massachusetts agreed long since to the proposal from our Assembly that the Eastern Governments should provide for the Train. I expect if they send any, it will be the Common Carriages (only) for the Guns. Mr Cockcroft is chagrin'd and I think with great Reason at the Appointment of Mess^{rs} Schuyler² & De Peyster,³ Paymasters, thinking it his Right as they declined, and I really believe if he had not at first said he would go, would decline it now. The Assembly I heard the day before yesterday, proposed to allow

¹ This provision was embodied in the act of July 5, 1755, *Colonial Laws of New York*, 3:1097-98.

² Philip Schuyler.

³ John Depeyster.

you 20^s. ~~per~~ day, I suppose this Exclusive of your Appointment, & to be towards your Expenses: I said I thought it would look better to allow you a Sum in general. I find some have mentioned £150: They wont I hear augment the Col^l. Pay but will allow him £50 for his Expences. I shall soon write again and am Dr Sir

your faithful hble serv^t.

GW BANYAR

They augment the Medicine Chest to £100: A Vessel is arrived at Phila which left Bristol 2^d May: We have nothing but uncertain Reports of News. I've made out your Commⁿ. & Instructions. You tell us no News from Crown Point. I hear they are in a State of Security there. You will see Mr Shirley time enough I suppose to send up a strong party to secure the proper Passes and to facilitate your March over the Carrying Place by clearing a Road.

GEN^L JOHNSON

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: June 14th. 1755
Banyars letter

TO GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. Df.

Mount Johnson June 14th. 1755

DEAR SIR

Yours by Captⁿ. Eyres came safe to hand as did also another of the 6th. Ins^t. I believe I have rec^d. what letters you have wrote Me Since I left You but I am sorry to hear You have not rec^d. Mine. This is my 4th. to you. I am pleased with Captⁿ. Eyres, and believe from the little acquaintance I have with him, that He will do verry well but what We shall do for proper Persons to manage & take care of the Train I dont know what is every Bodys business is no Bodys business, & on that part of the Service being well executed depends our Success. I have this

day rec^d. a letter from Gov^r. Wentworth¹ in answer to the one I wrote him from New York He tells me He has not a Man in his government qualified even to be a gunner. He says the Men allowed by that Province are ready, and all brave fellows inured to Hardship. but they all choose to Cross the Country, & Join me near Crown Point, w^h. I think will not be prudent, least by being separated into Small Bodies, we should be exposed to those attacks from them, which in Conjunction we may be able to defeat. from the Nature of the French government, & Scituation it is to be expected they will raise all the Force they possibly Can Agst. Us, and as they may probably have intelligence of Our distinct Motions, they will undoubtedly take every advantage in their power. I cant find they are allowed any more provisions than may Serve them to Crown Point; He tells me he is well pleased at my being apointed Comm^dr. in Chief, & that he will be ready to Join with his Majestys other gov^{rs}. in my appointment to the chief Command of the Forces raised in his government for that Service, or make out a Seperate Commission if I choose it. the following 2 paragraphs of his letter, I think fitt to communicate to you.

"I moved the Assembly to make a Suitable provision for you as Commander in Cheif of the Forces raised for this Expedition, in which there will be no difficulty, as soon as it is known what grants any of the other Governments make for their guidance in the affair. I have not the least prospect of obtaining any grant from the Assembly for Artillery or warlike Stores, nor even for Battoes Unless I consent to shorten the grant of five Hundred Men to 250, Which in my opinion will be a greater Injury to the Expedition, than to be deficient in the proportion this Province in Justice ought to bear in ordnance Stores, the Whole Regiment being made up of Men inured to Hardships, & bred in the Woods, for w^h. reason they are averse to the Sea, and make it their choice to March by Land, & Join the Army at the place of General Rendezvous near Crown Point Fort, Both Officers, &

¹Letter of May 23, 1755, q. v.

Men haveing made this their Choice, the Com^{tie}. of War have made no provision for transports but have provided Carts, Oxen, & baggage horses for the March by Land to Connecticut River, from whence they will be able to Join the Main Army in four Days "

I have no Acc^t what they are doing in any of the governments, I expect hourly letters from Mr. Shirley, as also the return of the Express I sent to General Braddock. which should they contain any thing verry Material you may expect to hear it. this Day Arent Stevens returned from the Five Nations & left the Indians Yesterday at the German Flatts with Cap^t. Stoddert whom I expect to Morrow. He Writes, & Stevens tells me there never was so great a Number come down before on any occasion there are Nine Nations coming down on my Summons, besides a Vast Body of Indians from the Southward, Who were never invited here before. I have rec^d. yesterday a letter from Croghan, & a Written Speech from the Half King¹ who tells me he has Joined General Braddock with about 40 Men, and is determined to fight the French as long as he can. They all express the greatest Joy imaginable at my Appointment. I flatter my self that were the Troops all ready to March now, while the Indians are down, I could get as Many as I wanted to Join me, but as every thing is so backward I must after I have done Speaking to them, discharge them for a While, as it would be too troublesome & expensive to keep them here Idle. I dont doubt at all (if we can go in any reasonable time) of getting three or four Hundred at least to Join me w^h. is pritty well considering the temper they have been lately in. How they will be supported I dont know unless the governments concerned will allow a Sum of Money for Provisions &ca. & Battoes to transport it, as well as that of ye others. it cannot be Supposed they can, or will carry it on their backs neither can we spare them to work in Battoes, wherefore there should be an allowance for Hands to carry their Battoes with provision — If they Send them up Arms, I wish they

¹ Scarouady, Delaware chief.

may be good, also the powder. I see in their resolves 10^{ll} paint allowed for 300 Indians, w^h. would not Serve them above two or three Days. they should at least have three pair of Shoes Each, as they soon wear them out. It is plain to me that they intend to do nothing in it, by the Manner proposed, nor do I find there's a likelyhood of the Companys being compleated except those at Albany & they, for want of what they ought to have immediately on their being mustered, Can hardly be kept together. You cannot Imagine w^t trouble & expence Matthews¹ is at to keep his Company together. they begin to murmur much already having the treatment in the late intended Expedition fresh yet in their Memory.

I cant help Saying, that I think it verry odd I should be denyed the 2 brass 18 p^{drs}. for this Service, w^h. indispensably wants Such as Well as more amunition as Captⁿ. Eyres I find by his letters has also represented in a strong light, but to little purpose. now You write me the Council have advised the Gov^r to let Shirley have y^e. lightest of them, and that I may perhaps gett the other upon proper application. I don't think it is worth while to apply any more for them, or any thing Else to a government Who Seems in the Eyes of Everry Body to throw Cold Water upon Everry thing offerred. I cant imagine what Tiddy Means by not moveing in that affair of yours, & his. Had He come to me about it, the thing might have been done already, but I have neither Seen him nor heard a word from him. It may be done Still I think if he moves briskly in it. I am extremely obliged to you for the pains you have taken in getting my Pattennt passed, as well as for Y^r. Care of Sending me Coppy of the Lease & release proper to be executed by the Persons put in trust. I am so hurried writeing by the return of the Express that I have not time to add —.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: June 14th 1755

Letter to M^r. Banyar

¹Edmond Mathews, captain of volunteers. *Report of the State Historian of the State of New York* for 1896, p. 801-3.

TO BENNING WENTWORTH

Df. S.¹M^t. Johnson, June 14th. 1755

SIR

Yesterday I received your Excell^ys favour of the 23 May. As I expect Gov^r. Shirley is already arrived in New York & that I may see him at Albany in a few Days, I cannot be so particular in my answer till I have consulted that Gentleman.

I am very glad to hear the good character y^r Excell^y gives of your Reg^t I hope they will do honour to their Province. [*& when the Service is ended. I shall not fail doing all the Justice in my Power to those whose Behaviour*²] I shall do my Endeavours in the Course of the Service to distinguish Merit without any partial Attachments [*& in the End give my Applause to every ones Merit*²] exert what Powers & Abilities I have in favour of those who shall be most entituled to it.

The place of general rendezvous must not be too near the Enemy lest by being seperated into small Bodies we should be exposed to those Attacks from them w^{ch} in Conjunction we may be able to defeat. From the nature of their Gov^t. it is to be expected they will raise their whole Force against us, & as they may possibly have Intelligence of our distinct Motions, they will undoubtedly take every Advantage in their Power. But on this point as well as some others mentioned in your Letter I shall be more explicit when I have the honour to write you next.

General Braddock hath sent me Capt Ayres a Gentleman from the Army to act as an Engineer, he has been with me & seems to be a capable Man. New York I understand is to provide the Artillery but by what Capt Ayres tells me, in too sparing a manner. the Stores & necessaries for the Train are not in that forwardness I could wish, nor indeed in general, do I see

¹ Body of letter in handwriting of P. Wraxall.

² Frased in original manuscript.

and what sort of a carriage
is all ready for last Expedition, but
what sort to make here; at all times
Common Carriages will be made, and if
Carriages must be made; it may be
after the Return of the Corps. Do you
and what Carriages for the small Guns
Mention every thing you want more, for
time to be left. No more at all by the
I am obliged to leave off to copy this letter
I hope waiting in the Governor's Room.

C. P.

your most obed.
tho. servant

W. B. R.

The Governor who is now present bids me (after
the above to him) acquaint you that we can be
the common Small Carriages here, and if you do
want them, they may be of service here; that you

General Johnson

W. B. R.

that readiness that unanimity & Spirit w^{ch} so important a Crisis as this seems to call for & w^{ch} I am persuaded if not rightly improved will be of most fatal Consequence & if hereafter to be remedied must be at a much greater Expence than at present. I am most respectfully Sir

Your Excellencys Most Obd^t hum Serv^t

W. J.

GOV^R WENTWORTH

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: M^t. Johnson June 14th. 1755.

Copy of a Letter to Gov^r. Wentworth

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

[*New York June 15, 1755*]

[]¹
 [] Return of the Express []
 described to you will do to trans[] []
 and what sort of a Carriage that []
 in Albany for last Expedition, that wi[] []
 what sort to make here; at all Events I []
 Common Carriage will be made, and if the t[]
 Carriage must be made, it may be soon [] after
 the Return of the Express: Do you w[] [] and what
 Carriages for the small Guns you [] Mention every
 thing you want now, for the[re] [] is no [] time to be lost:
 No News at all by the Pos[t] [] I am obliged
 to leave off to copy the List, th[] [] Express
 waiting in the Governors Room.—

Dr. Sr.

your most obed^t

hb^{le} Servant

GW BANYAR

¹ Line or lines missing.

The Governor who is now present bids me (after re[ading] the above to him) acquaint you that we can be m[aking] the Common Trail Carriages here, and if you don[t] want them, they may be of service here; that you hu[] [] to build them immediately. A [] [] [] them paid for. While I was copy [] [l]ist, the Governor has wrote to you himself [but] I cannot tell to what purpose: He is now gone out somewhere, and I am obliged to seal my Letter. Do you want our brass Mortar, if you do you must get Shells from Boston.

Y^{rs}.

GW BANYAR

[] day 4 oClock
June 1755

GENERAL JOHNSON

[that] [6]00 be allowed for [] for which Col Johnson [] Treasurer of that province [] That for every Comp^y. of Indians (at 100 []) there [] to a Captain £ 9 Sterl [⌘] Month, to a L[iutenant] £ 6 Sterl [⌘] Month & to an Ensign £ 4 [] commence when they receive ther Comm[issions] That the wages of the General be £ 25 S[terl] [⌘] Month to commence the date of hi[s] Commission.—¹

INDORSED: June 15th. 1755—
Letter from Banyar
by Brazier Express

¹The postscript gives in substance the Massachusetts committee report of June 7, referred to above.

...communicate to you, Mr Banyan as
to you, We do not know if this impress
going till now he calls at my house.
You may rely upon any service I can
do you; Bill Wrennall I expect he will
write to me, if there be no more in his
letter than in his Jan-
1st

Your most humble servant
James De Lancey

James De Lancey

From James De Lancey to Johnson, June 15, 1755
(A slight portion burned off)

FROM JAMES DE LANCEY

A. L. S.

<New York, 15 June 1755.>

<SIR>

<This is only to make my compliments to you & to> tell you that I <hope be>fore the week is out to write someth<ing> determinate to you, Mr Banyar writes to you, He did not know of this express going till now he calls at my house, You may rely upon any Service I can do you; tell Wraxall I expect he will write to me, if there be no more in his letter than in this. I am Sir

Your most humble Servant

JAMES DE LANCEY

ADDRESSED: To Major General William Johnson Esq^r
at Albany

TO JAMES DE LANCEY

Df.¹

Mount Johnson 15 June 1755

SIR

Just now I received by an Express from Albany Your Honours favour of the 7. Inst. As that part of it relating to the Cagnawaga Indians seems to require my immediate Answer, I must defer the other particulars to the next opportunity.

I have talked with some of the Mohock Sachems about the Cagnawaga Indians, and they are of Opinion that those Indians have at present a more favourable Disposition towards the English Interest than for many Years past; And tho I think their uncontrolled Intercourse with Albany & the Indiscretions to give it the softest name to which some People there may be liable, is a point

¹ In handwriting of P. Wraxall. Printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:659; Q., 2:384, without the erased lines.

of no small Consequence at this critical Juncture, Yet as I expect this day or tomorrow Morning the arrival of our Indians here, 9 Nations of whom the Interpreter tells me are on the road, more in Number than he éver yet saw together, that they seem to well pleased & in a friendly Disposition, and as the Matters I shall move to them must be conducted with great Caution & Delicacy, it will be of the highest Importance to my Success with them, that they should be kept in as good humour as possible & receive no Disgusts w^{ch}. can be avoided I am affraid if the laudible Zeal of Gov^r. Shirleys measures should now take place with respect to the Cagnawaga Indians, it may breed a Dissatisfaction amongst ours & prejudice my Influence over them, for tis certain they do look on the Cagnawagas as a part of themselves. If I should be so happy as to succeed in my Intentions with our Indians, I then propose to bring the Cagnawagas on the Carpet & put our Conduct relating to them on some detirminate footing & to have herein the concurrence of our Indians.

[In the mean while if any prudential Cautions to the Magistrates of Albany with regard to the Cagnawaga Indians may be thought necessary & will be useful, they should in my opinion be given in the way most likely to prevail & procure their Obedience.¹]

A few days may enable me to give Your Honour such Informations & Lights as may point out what conduct ought to be observed towards the Cagnawaga Indians at this Crisis. I am most respectfully Sir

Y^r honours Most Obd^t hum serv^t.

Cap^t Ayres went to Albany the day before yesterday. M^r Wraxall presents his Duty to your Honour —

INDORSED BY WRAXALL: Coppy of

Col. Johnsons Letter to Gov^r

DeLancey 15 June 1755.

¹ Erased in original manuscript.

TO WILLIAM EYRE

*A. Df. S.**Mount Johnson June 15th. 1755*

SIR

It gave me no small pleasure to hear of your safe Arrival at Albany. the Packet I received by the Bearer contains nothing material being no more than a letter from Gov^r. Delancey, and an Order on Captⁿ. Marshall for more field Peices which I Send you inclosed, & would have You look at What guns are there, fitt for y^t. service and in order to expedite the Affair Report to Mr. Delancy what Number you think necessary, and what order they are in. Sending me another by any oportunity. I rec^d. a letter the same day you left this, from Gov^r. Wentworth of New Hampshire Who writes me His 500 Men are ready, but they are not to Join the Main Body Untill we come pritty near Crown Point He says he Cannot prevail on his gov^t. to contribute towards y^e. Expençe of the Train. (good encouragement [*I must own*]) In Short I am afraid that the narrow spirit of frugality w^h. reigns too much in all the Provinces will retard, if not defeat the Schemes agreed upon.

As Soon as I hear from Gener^l. Braddock, or Mr. Shirly (w^h. I expect minutely) shall write you what is to be done. I must beg the favour you will forward these letters to New York by the first Sloop goes. Excuse this freedom & belive me S^r.

Y^r. Verry Humble Serv^t.

W. J.

CAPT^N. WILLIAM EYRE

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: M^t. Johnson June 15th. 1755
Letter to Capⁿ. Eyre

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY

L. S.¹<Boston, June 15th 1755.

SIR

This will be deliver^d to you by Lt Colonel Ellison of my Regiment, whom I have directed upon his arrival> at Albany to Confer with you, Colonel <Peter> Schuyler, and Colonel Lydius (if they should be upon the Spot) together with the field officers of mine and Sir William Pepperrell's Regiments, upon the proper measures to be taken for conveying the Troops destin'd for the Strait of Niagara, in the Expedition under my command, from Schenectady to Oswego.

As I have a great Opinion of your knowledge of the Country, and Judgment in this affair, I shall much depend upon your advice and assistance to Colonel Ellison in this consultation, and every other matter within your power for the good of his Majesty's Service; particularly in furnishing him with a sufficient number of Indians for Scouts and Guards in the Route he shall take.

I purpose to embark at Providence in Rhode Island Governm^t on Friday the 20th. instant, for New York, where I shall not stay above one day, and from <thence proceed to Albany up Hudson river, where I hope to meet you, and settle every thing in the best manner with you for his Majesty's Service in the Expedition under your Command, as I pass through to Schenectady: I have reason to think that the Troops of all the Governm^{ts} concern^d in that Service are upon their march, or in> their passage for Albany.²

¹ Second part of manuscript A. L. S.

² General Braddock marched from Fort Cumberland for Fort Duquesne June 10. The expedition from New England to Nova Scotia sailed May 23, reaching Chignecto June 2. See *Correspondence of William Shirley*, 2:201.

<You may> depend upon my utmost endeavours <to secure for you> the greatest Quantity, I can, of military Stores as the Share of this Governm^t and I have already engag'd them to send forthwith 400 Barrells of Gunpowder, two of w^{ch} being Cannon Powder, I have permitted them to take out of the King's magazine, as I can't find that any of that sort can be purchas'd in any of the Colonies; and nothing shall be wanting in me to obtain a suitable provision of every kind of Stores necessary for the Service, both from this and all the other Governments.

By the minutes of the Council at Alexandria, I <find> that the Western Indians, who are to Share <£300> of the £800 in presents, are to receive their presents at Oswego; I hope therefore to find them <there> at my arrival at that place. As I thought the inclos'd Extract from Captⁿ Bradstreet's letter¹ might be of Service in your <consultation with Colonel Ellison, I have communicated it to you. I am with much truth and Esteem Sir,

Your obedient humble Servant>

W. <SHIRLEY>

<P. S. I receiv'd a letter from major> General Braddock dated from Cumberland fort, at Will's Creek, 21st May, and he expected to march from thence in ab^t a fortnight.

MAJOR GENERAL JOHNSON.

Boston June 15th 1755

SIR,

The foregoing is copy of a letter, I have sent to you by Col Ellison; I should be glad, if it would suit your Conveniency, that you was there at his arrival; But if that is not convenient, I desire you would meet him at Schenectady.

I have sent Colonel Schuyler Orders to proceed directly from Schenectady to Oswego with his Regiment, taking up under his Convoy the pieces of Artillery, military stores, and provisions,

¹ See Bradstreet to Shirley, May 29, 1755; also Bradstreet to the Governors, May 29, 1755.

w^{ch}. are now ready at Albany or Schenectady, and I suppose and hope he will be gone before Colonel Ellison's arrival [] would be of [] with some, as soon as may [] ght be of dangerous Consequence to [] Indian with our designs, whose fidelity can't [] dep]ended upon, and I suppose he has not [know]ledge enough of them to distinguish w^{ch}. of [] may be trusted, and w^{ch}. not, I have forbid [] to trust any Indian with our Intentions, [] directed him, if he does make any presents, only to engage them to be at Oswego by [] appointed time

You will be pleas'd to take care to engage a sufficient Number of Indians to attend me from Schenectady to Oswego, notwithstanding what [I] have desir'd you to furnish Colonel Ellison with; I hope enough may be found for both of us: I should be glad if you could find any trusty Indian to send with Colonel Schuyler to gain Intelligence of the Strength and posture of the French at Niagara, y^t I might know it upon my arrival at Oswego. I am Sir,

Your most Humble Serv^t.

W. SHIRLEY

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar by two of June 16 and 18, from Banyar to Johnson on gun carriages. ³The letter of June 16 with an abstract of the June 18 letter is printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:660-61; Q, 2:385-86). The letter of June 18 is printed in full in its proper place. The manuscript, containing both, was injured by the fire.

TO OLIVER DE LANCEY

A. Df. S.

<M^t Johnson, June 16th 1755.

SIR,

Yours of the 30th Ulto together wth. 4000 Dollars I rec^d. by Jacob Bentheusen. One of the Dollars was a Counterfitt. I

should be glad you would please to send me up the remainder of > the £2000 — or pay <it to Mess^{rs}. Colden> & Kelly whose receipt shall <be a Sufficient> Discharge for that Sum. I expect <the Ind^{ns}.> here every Minute from the German <Flatts> where some have been these four days <waiting> for the rest to Join them, in order to <come> down in a Body. they Come by far more Numerous than ever was known on <any> Occasion. I expect also the Interpreter <whom> I sent to the Southward Every hour with a great Body of Indians. I flatter my<self> from what I already know, that if the <Forces> were ready now to March, I could get as <many> Warriours to go with me as I pleased; but I am sorry to find <no> likelihood of our being ready this long time, wh^h. I doubt will be attended wth. bad consequences on many Acc^{ts}. I think you told me you had a feild Bed of S^r. Danverses which you would dispose of. I should be glad to take it at what you please to charge. Being <verry> much hurried, & Surrounded by Crowds of People Have only time to add, that I am Sincerely
Your Most Obedient Humble Serv^t.

W. J.

Mr. Wraxall tells me you have a Carbine to dispose of, if so & will let me have it it will <oblidge> me much.

<OLIVER> DELANCY Esq^r.

FROM WILLIAM EYRE

A. L. S.

<Albany 16th. June 1755.

SIR,

I sent you yesterday a line by one of y^e officers going to the Lake of my complying with your directions; & I am now very sorry to find by Col. Lydius, what little, if any thing is done by> Gen^l Shirley <in regard to our neglected> expedition. This gentleman also <informs me, you> must part with 500 Men more besides the <Jersey Troops> so that in a little time y^r.

design'd Number is <likely> to be tolerably Well reduced. I do not find by <Mr. Lydius> that this Letter will give you the satisfaction necessary, or that you have Just reason to expect: the total Neglect of the Train, & the reduction of the design'd Number, looks <as> if it's Success was not now in contemplation among <y^e> great; so that I begin to fear it will be well for <those> who have nothing to do with it. You are best <Judge> whether my apprehensions are groundless or not, <but> so they occur to me, & some times in a much worse <garb> than I have now painted them, w^{ch}. makes me uneasy. Hitherto I have been Successfull, and it makes me grave when I consider to be embark'd in so extraordinary an Undertaking. However Sr., I will to the utmost of my Power do <every> thing that will forward and assist you in Y^r. Expedition, <altho> I cannot say I am much elated upon y^e. thoughts of it for <y^e.> present. be pleas'd to send me Word where and how you would have <the> Connecticut Troops disposed of, if they should come Soon.

Adieu Sir, & am y^r. most ob^t humbl^t. <Serv^t>
 <MAJOR GEN^L JOHNSON.> WILL: <EYRE>

TO JAMES DE LANCEY

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 35 by a letter of June 16th from Johnson to James De Lancey on the Onogangeys, Mohawk Castle forts and Indians obeying the summons (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:660; Q., 2:385). Not destroyed in the fire.

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Df.*¹

<SIR

Mount Johnson 16 June 1755

congratulate y^r Excellency on your late Promotion & I hope this will find you arrived in good health at New York.

¹ In handwriting of P. W^raxall.

Herewith I transmitt you some Extracts from a Letter I received Last week from Gov^r. Wentworth of New Hampshire. I wrote him that I would not give him a determinate Answer till I had consulted you. however I suggested to him that it might be dangerous for the New Hampshire Troops to march in a separate Body near to Crown Point, & that we might perhaps require their assistance against > the attempts of the Enemy before <they would in> this case be able to join us. I must beg <you will> consider of this Matter & favour me with y^r <opinion> & directions thereon.

General Braddock hath sent me Capt Ayres to act as an Engineer, he has been with me & is now at Albany on the affairs of his Department. he seems to be an active capable officer & as there is no Quarter Mas^r. General appointed or provided for, he tells me he thinks he can execute that Duty & is willing to do so. Such an Officer is absolutely necessary. And if he is accepted for it, there ought to be a suitable Provision made for him in both the above Capacities, w^{ch}. I beg leave to recommend to your Consideration & that the necessary Steps may be taken therein.

Gov^r. De Lancey & Gov^r. Wentworth have both offered to give me their Commissions for the Chief Command of their Troops. I have no Exception, but I would not detirmine till I had y^r. Excellencys Opinion thereon.

I dont find any Battoes are provided to carry the Provisions &c. for the Indians, there must be some Provision made on that head. When they see all the other Troops under Tents they will very naturally think it hard & unreasonable to have none for them. I must desire y^r. Excellency to adjust these two points.

The Sachems of the two Mohock Castles have already told me that if their Warriors are engaged with us, they <expect> to have Two officers & Soldiers to protect their old <Men their> Wives & Children at each of their Castles, And they <desire the> officers may be such as have some Knowledge

<of their Ways & manners. This is so reasonable and what I must promise them, that I make no Question care will be taken about it. At Fort Hunter there is indeed a Lieut. but no more than a Sergt & abt. 7 or 8 Men, such as Cap^t. King refused to take with him as not capable of Service.

The Pay is not yet ascertained nor any provision made that I hear of for the Indian officers. I have sent for such Gentlemen as I think most capable & most proper for this Command. they have at my request left their Bus>iness & are waiting to <be put on Duty.

I> must repeat to Your Excellency <that more Amunition> will be wanting than was in the <Estimate> and that an Allowance must be made for <those> who may work at the Fortifications.

An Artillery Company will be absolutely Necessary w^{ch} I dont find is yet thought of.

To have these several Matters w^{ch}. I have laid before Your Excellency agreed to, put into Effect & forwarded, seem to me such preliminary steps as if not properly taken & secured, the Expedition will stand upon a very imperfect Bottom & produce neither the Ends proposed nor do honour to the several Gov^{ts}. who are engaged therein. I need not tell your Excellency that the present Conjuncture is a Crisis upon the Wise & active improvement of w^{ch}. the future Security & Prosperity, perhaps the very being of these Colonies may depend. I am convinced You want not to be animated on this interesting Occasion, but I wish true public Spirit & that generous Ardor w^{ch}. it so loudly calls for were universally diffused among us, and that an ill timed Parsimony, partial & narrow Principles with respect to Provincial Contributions do not or may not blast those promising Advantages w^{ch}. Heaven seems to offer for our Improve<ment.>

Upon you Sir all Eyes are fixt in these parts, upon you <at least> I make my chief dependence & I will <not Question but you will exert your influence & Power to push forward all these Measures for the safety, honour & Welfare of these His

Majestys Dominions w^{ch}. opportunity may give you — And fully am I assured that wherever the Shame & the Guilt of neglecting His Majestys Service & the general Interest of the Colonies may fall, it will not justly fall on you.

I most sincerely wish your Excellency, Health, Honour & Success in all your attempts for the public Safety & Interest> and I am most resp<ectfully> Sir

Your Excellencys Most obed^t & obliged hum serv^t.

<Last> night after having <unsuc>cessfully tried many People, I agreed with three Persons who have undertaken to build the two Forts for the Mohock & Connajohory Indians. I every hour expect the Indians down here, the Interpreter tells me there are 9 Nations coming & more in Number than he ever yet saw, besides these I expect an Interpreter wth. a considerable Number from the Southw^d. I wrote Gov^r DeLancey my Sentiments ab^t the Cagnawaga Indians w^{ch}. I make no doubt he hath shown to you.

His Excellency GOV^R. SHIRLEY.

FROM WILLIAM EYRE

A. L. S.

Albany 17th. June 1755

<S^R

I send you inclosed a Letter I had from Gov^r. Shirley w^{ch}. appears to me a very extraordinary one. Since I did myself the favour to write to you by Col. Lydius this Morning, he is pleased to think my Conduct irregular, upon my> application for <more Cannon> without first acquainting <you. I> apprehended in regard to the <Train it> was my Duty to represent & Solicit <for> what is necessary when it appeared <to> me Necessary, particularly as I thought no time was to be lost & you not <upon> the Spot, nor at that time I could <not> tell where you was. This is a rebuke I am not accusom'd to meet

with, and <am> sorry to think that my zeal should occasion.
I am Sr.

very Sincerely y^r. most ob^t. Serv^t.

WILL: EYRE

ADDRESSED: To Major Gen^l Johnson
at Mount Johnson

FROM BENNING WENTWORTH

A. L. S.

<Portsmouth June 17th 1755>

SIR

Upon my recieving from <Mr> DeLancey the resolves of the Assembly of New York, relative to an Hon^{bl} Appointment to be m<ade> by the respective Colonys for you as Commander in Chief of the forces raised by the respective Colon<ys> interested in the Crown Point Expedition, allso for the pay of the officers, Commanding the Indians & other Incident Charges Attending that Service, I convened the Members of both Houses, who takeing those Matters under Consideration Resolved as you will See by the Inclosed <and> you may rely on your bills being punctually <Hon>our'd agreeable thereto.

There has been on many Services a Standing Quota fixed between this Government, & <the> Massachusetts, but no other Since my Lord Bellimont's¹ administration, & at that time it was General from Pensilvania to New Hampshire, but in this proportion, the Members of both Houses have had regard to Neither, but have Govern'd themselves by Granting one Eighth part of what the Massachusetts have granted, & if that Colony have done enough New Hampshire has likewise; this Government has regulated their grant by one Eighth, <instead of one tenth, which was> the Antient Established Quota <between the> Colonys of New Hampshire & the Massa<chusetts.>

¹ Richard Coote, Earl of Bellomont, governor of New York, 1698-99, 1700-1, of Massachusetts 1699-1700.

The regiment I have raised for the Crown Point Expedition, I have appointed the Hon^{bl} Joseph Blanchard¹ Esq^r, Collonell, of whose Conduct & behaviour I am persuaded will be agreeable.

The money Granted for Carrying on this Expedition being paper, it has no Currency either in the Massachusetts or in New York Governments, for which reason I have been obliged to March the regiment by Land to Connecticut River, from thence to March over to Crown point to Joyn the main body of the Troops under your Command. Coll^o Blanchard has my orders to inform you from time to time of the Situation of his regiment, and by <Scouts to inform> himself of the <progress of the Army> up the River to the Carrying <place & to be re>ady at all Events to Joyn you as soon <as it> may be Convenient, or he receives your orders <for> so doing.

The dependance I have upon the Assembly for Carrying the Expedition, has given me an Infinite deal of trouble, & has been very Injurious to the Service, but I am hoping this will be the last that I shall have the Conducting of, until the Colonys are put upon a different footing, which it appears to me there is an absolute Necessity for, Wishing you all Imaginable Success I am with great Respect Sir

Your most Obedient hum^{bl} Servant

B WENTWORTH

The Hon^{bl} WILLIAM JOHNSON Esq^r.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

New York 18 June 1755

SIR

The above² is a Copy of my Letter sent by Captain Vanschaick, the purport of which I am to repeat to you again and

¹ Joseph Blanchard was judge of the superior court of New Hampshire from 1749-58.

² Letter Banyar to Johnson, June 16, 1755, *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:660-61; Q, 2:385.

further the Governor orders me to acquaint you that if you carry any other small Cannon with you that you should order proper Carriages, if wanted, to be made for them, and he will pay for them. Tho' the Assembly have not as I have heard come to any final Resolution about <the> Train, they approve of the Governor's having <ordered> Carriages and Shot to be made, and till <otherwise> provided for, the Governor will order <Mr. Dies to pay for them out of the £20,000 Fund so that I hope the Workmen &c will be willing to undertake the Business, as they will, when the Carriages are made, be immediately paid on sending their accounts down allowed to you. The Carriages will be drawn much easier & work better for the wheels being uncommonly wide, this may make them a little heavier,> but I am <told since they have> used broad wheels <in England, only half> the number of Horses will draw the <Carriages> that were required before. I hope <you have> received the copy of Massachusetts List of <Stores &> that you will as soon as possible send down <a> List of what further Articles you want. <You> have your own Estimate, & pray be particular> I will spare no pains nor Endeavours to g<et every> thing done which may forward the Service, <Things> I hear, as to your Command, are in a State of Security I mean without apprehension of our Design. Think to write often, as you will find me anxious to do every thing to convince you of the Friendship & Sincerity with which I am D Sir your obed^t. humble Servant

GW. BANYAR

ADDRESSED: On his Majesty's <Service>

To Major General William Johnson
at Albany.

FROM COLDEN AND KELLY

A. L. S.

[New York June 18, 1755]

[]¹
 [] for in every shop in []
 [] any. We at last applied to one []
 who said he could get us some, but when he [] shop were
 he had seen it, it was all sold to ab[] yard & it will take
 1 y^d & $\frac{3}{4}$ for to Lapell & Cuff tw[] On being thus
 dissatisfied we applied to M^{rs} Kress to send to a Store where
 she knew was a p^s of ve[] good, to try if the Merch^t
 would Cut it (the p^s being more then she dared Venture to pur-
 chase for her sh[op] green Velvet being a very Slow Sale) The
 Merch^t was [] home & we can get no Answer 'till
 tomorrow Morning. [] shall use our Endeavours to get
 Some for you & Send [] the next sloop — Indian Corn
 none now in Tow[] except Maryland which is very bad
 of the Sort and Sel[] [] 2/8 p^r bush, therefore
 would not Send it. Corn from the [] is Daily
 expected & we shall purchase the first that com[] & send
 it by the first sloop after it is purchased — We have viewed the
 Tents that are makeing here, & those [] the Camp,
 don't find any near so good as one M^r Ale[xander] is makeing
 up for himself & shall tomorrow get of the [] Stuff
 for yours & get that one and the other two Ten[ts] made as
 expeditiously as possible — We consulted M^r Pr[] what
 he thought, proper to make it of and he likes what we design to
 take [] the Marky, only thinks it too good, as he
 says he hop[] [] not have occasion to be
 long Encamped. Mort[ier] []¹
 [] keep or return this []
 [] proud of your further Commands []

¹ Lines missing.

[] Compleat y^r orders with all imaginable
 Expe[] [] Punctuality in our Power. Mr
 Dow Just [] [] sail write in a great
 hurry being desirous you should have the things you Send for by
 the first sloop that sails after we receive y^r orders We are
 Sr

[] Shirleys Reg^t hourly Y^r Much oblidge
 [ex]pected & himself will humble Serv^{ts}.
 [] here Saturday or Sunday COLDEN & KELLY
 []t

Dow sailed Just as our Lad went to put
 these things on board we now send them
 and 1¾ yd Velvet by Captⁿ Breyar

ADDRESSED: To
 The Honoble William Johnson Esq.
 Pr Captⁿ Dow at
 with a Gun Albany
 basket
 Rx paper
 & a bundle

TO JAMES DE LANCEY

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 36 by one of June 19th from Johnson to James De Lancey on Shirley's despatches and the Indian conference (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:662; Q. 2:386). Not destroyed in the fire.

TO GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. Df.

M^t. Johnson June 19th. 1755.

<SIR

Yours of the 15th. of June I rec^d. by Brazier, together with the Boston List of Stores &c^a. There are many material articles not inserted, nor (I must Suppose) thought of. Viz^t Shot

for> the Cannon, a Ginn <&c^a. as mentioned> in a list Sent Gov^r. Shirley, <also to Gov^r. Delancey w^h I presume you> will see & w^h. I hope they will provide <immediately> also 100 Battoes for the Train & <ordnance> Stores w^h. might have been made this <Week> past, if Albany & Schenectady People <(who> finished Mr. Shirley's Battoes) were emplo<yed>, for they have a parcel of timber, Boards &c^a. left, and now useless. There are near 50 Men Employed by Boston gov^t at Albany who are to make 200 Battoes for their Forces, instead of 300. Mr. Lyddius Shewed me a Commission he has from Gov^r. Shirley as Coll^o. of all the Indians who may go with him to Niagara. I find Shirley thinks of himself, & little of any body Else. As to the Carriages, I kn<ow> nothing about the make of them. but I desired Cap^t. Eyre to view them, & write Mr. Delancey his opinion of them. I know they require to be verry Strong, to go so bad a Road. The Irons of them at Albany, if all to be had, will Save a good deal of Expence. I think it is as well to have the Carriages made at York as here, not doubting but there are Men there who know what Sort of Carriages will best answer for travelling Such a Road. <The 4> Brass 6 pounders, & 4 Iron <ones w^h. Cap^tⁿ. Eyres has chose at Albany will all want Carriages I am convinced & there should be spare Carriages also.

As to my Pay they were very sparing I think. However as I dispise any Emolument to my private fortune by the Expedition, I am quite easy as to that point, but I think they ought to allow a Sum of Money to defray the Expence necessary on Such Service to keep up the Dignity in Some Measure of an Officer of that Rank, and without w^h. I shall be verry unwilling to adv>ance so much of my <own private fortune. The Pay> of the Indian Officers may do, but it <is a Joke to put it on that> footing of a Cap^tⁿ., Lieu^t., & Ensign, Command^s. 100 Indians, <that must be> left to me, and I am Sure I shall act therein for <the best. I> shall want the Brass Mortar w^h. is at Albany and <50 Shells> w^h. are there, it is the Same Size of that one at York.

Dear Sir, I am sure I shall not be
all about the Brass Mortar at West Albany
are there, it is the same size of that one at York.
I pray send me up the Telegraph, if you have got it, as
what passed in Council at Alexandria by the first day
I can well oblige

Yr. Servt

Wm Johnson June 19. 1755

Wm Johnson
Yr. Servt

House Harry Vincennes, being
surrounded on all sides by Indians -

I have put them all here this even up at the head of the
bay within 8 Miles of my House last night. I have got
all those Jacknives with me in the French gillnets and
shall have the hands I struggle ever Man had with
for I will make them swim their backs, the Express
General Braddock not yet returned, pray write me
how every thing goes on there, and what kind of
intended
by position, means. —

Wm Johnson

From Johnson to Goldsbrow Banyar, June 19, 1755
(Latter half of letter)

TO WILLIAM EYRE

*Df.*¹*Mount Johnson 19 June 1755*

<SIR

Your favours of the 15-16 & 17 Inst. I have received. I wish the Carriages of the Four Brass Field pieces may serve when repaired. The Carriages for the 18 p^{ds}. are ordered to be made at N. York.

Governor Shirley's Letter to me is very polite & strengthened with assurances that he will exert himself to secure & forward every thing relating <the Expedition I am to command,> but I am affraid his own too <much engrosses his atten>tion to leave him that Zeal & Dilig<ence with reg>ard to ours as I could wish for. And indeed <I shall be a little> hurt, if he takes another 500 Men from the <Troops> originally allotted to my Command, for he does not write me <of it.> I hope he will condescend to produce justifiable Reasons for it. I have in all my Letters to the several Governors endeavoured to animate them seriously to consider & vigorously to push forward the Measures w^{ch}. were agreed upon at Alexandria, but amidst the variety of so many Governments independent on each other, it is extreamly difficult to produce that unanimity with regard to <the> whole w^{ch}. the Success of such an Expedition as ours requires. However let us do what lays in our Power & hope the best.

Please to apply to Col. Rentzlaer over the River to know if there is room in his Neighbourhood to encamp the Connecticut or any other Troops when they arrive. If he says yes, go & view the Ground & fix their Encampment. If no proper place can be had there I would have them Encampt behind the Fort, but as far from the Road as possible. The officers must take care to keep their Men within their Camp & not let them be runing about the Town.

¹ In handwriting of Peter Wraxall.

Mr. Shirley's Letter to you is indeed Tart. Your Application for the Two Brass 18 lbs. piqued him as he <has> set his heart upon them. For my part I think you <did your> Duty & acted in character as I was at so great <a distance, in the Application you made to Gov^r. DeLancey. I hope your Chagrin is over about it, dont let it give you any more disturbance, put it down as the effects of peevishness not as a just Condemnation of your Conduct.

The Indians are arrived and I am over head & Ears engaged with them & shall be so for some time to come; however> let me hear from you <when Matter> occurs. I am Sir

Your very <Hum serv^t>

To CAP^T EYRE at Albany

INDORSED: June 19th. 1755

Letter to Cap^t. Eyre

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Df.*¹

19 June 1755

<SIR

My last was the 16 Ins^t to w^h I beg leave to refer y^r Excell^y & yesterday I had the honour of your Favours of the 5th June by Col. Lydius of the 9th do by an Express this Morning from New York.

I have assured Col. Lydius & your Excellency may depend, that if the Indians can be brought to act with us against> the French, I will endeavour <to prevail on a suff^t> Number to attend your Excellency <under his Command. Part> of the Indians are already arrived <here & I expect more> today or to morow; when the Nations <coming are> compleat, I shall open my Conferences with them. <What> their Resolutions

¹ In handwriting of Peter Wraxall. Extract printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:663-65; Q, 2:386-87.

may be, I cannot yet be certain of, I <hope> they will be favourable.

With your Excellencys fav^r of the 9 Ins^t I received a Specification of the Sundrys w^{ch} your Province have Provided & are providing. Herewith I send you a List of those things w^{ch} are not yet provided or of which there is not a sufficient Quantity in the said Specification relating to the Artillery & w^{ch} I most earnestly recommend to your Excellency may be furnished without loss of time.

The Report of the Committee of both Houses in y^r. Gov^t. to w^{ch}. they have concurred & your Excellency Consented I have read & considered, and I beg leave to observe to your Excellency thereon.

that the Six hundred Pounds therein mentioned for the Indian Service is not specified to be either Sterling or what Currency. I make no Doubt it is the former & that the word Sterling is an omission. in this you will please to detirmine me.

To establish the Indians into Companys of 100 Men each with Cap^{ts}. Lieu^{ts}. & Ensigns, is impossible that sort of regularity cannot be obtained amongst those People, their officers must be Interpreters & take Care of them in all respects besides doing their Duty as officers. Ensigns will be needless. And you may depend I shall employ no more officers than what are absolutely <necessary> for the Service, herein I expect the Governments <will confide> in me & they shall have no just Cause <for reproach.

The Pay set down for me, their Proportion of w^h y^r Province is to be answerable for, I submit to, but surely your Government doth not intend or suppose these Wages (as they term it)¹ is to supply me with Equipage, with Necessaries, charge of Servants, & the various other expences w^{ch} the Command will subject me to. I am far from intend>ing or desiring a Support for a <Vain

¹ Twenty-five pounds sterling per month.—*Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:668; Q, 2:389.

or useless ostentati>on, but they will I presume think it <necessary that I> Sustain the Honour conferred upon me <with a De>cent Dignity; the Troops will naturally expect to <see it> the officers to feel it. Neither my Policy nor my <Spirit> will allow me to disgrace the Character I am plac<ed in.>

The Province of New Jersey have agreed to give Col. Peter Schuyler who commands but 500 Men £300 their Curr^y. for his Table &c. Is not a Secretary, are not Aid de Camps necessary officers about me, is there to be no Establishment for them, they must be always part of my Table. I supposed these Matters would naturally occur to the Gentlemen of your Legislature, and I thought it would with more propriety come from them, than be proposed by me. perhaps thro hurry it may have been omitted in the Report you send me. for the Wages allowed me are I suppose considered only as a Compensation for my Time & Fatigue, & tho I make no objection on that head, yet I must on this occasion say, that no Pay w^{ch}. even a lavish Generosity might have given me, would be Adequate to the Loss and Prejudice I shall sustain in my own private Affairs, and if Public Spirit had not prevailed with me above all other Motives I should have declined the honour w^{ch} was offered me. I have already declared to you Sir & permit me to repeat it, that I disavow the least Intentions or Desire of increasing my private Fortune by this Command.

I laid it to Account in the best Light, that I should be a considerable Looser, I am contented to be so <as> far as I can prudently bear. I am fully <sensible of & Grateful for the honour done me. I am Ambitious & if the Plan agreed upon at Alexandria is put into Effect, I hope with the Divine Assistance to do honour to my Country & contribute to her future Tranquility. Your Excellency must pardon me for giving you so much Interruption on this> Subject. I have <done it with reluctance, but I thought> myself obliged to be <thus explicit.>

If the Indians should agree <to assist us in> our Enterprize, they will thro<w> themse<lves immediately> upon me for

their Maintenance w^{ch} will be daily a very great Expence. If the Measures agreed upon against the French of w^{ch} in my principal Speech, I shall give them some general Notice, should be laid aside, depend upon it we shall loose them for ever, <nay> I fear if we are not Successful, their Opinion of us will be very fatal to our Interest. if on the contrary we should chastise the Insolence of the French & drive them from their Encroachments & maintain our Conquests, I dare prophecy with common Prudence on our sides the French will not rule a Nation of Indians on the Continent, and the Inhabitants of these Colonies will reap a thousand fold for their present Expences & enjoy their Possessions in uninterrupted Security.

When I draw on Mr. by virtue of my Credit from Gen^l Braddock upon y^r Excellency for Indian Affairs, I will specify the principal Articles for w^{ch}. money is to be appropriated.

I shall rejoice to see Your Excellency in health & setting forward upon y^r. Enterprise <in w^h> I most fervently wish you a compleat Success and Am

To GOV^R. SHIRLEY

<Sundrys not included in the Specification of the Council of War for Massachusetts Bay & necessary for the Train of Artillery

- 100 Fuses wanting for the Brass Mortar at Albany 8½ Inches.> (N. B. the 1000 Fuses mentioned <I suppose> are filled none that I know of <understand> how to make them)
- 200 Barrels more of Cannon Powder
- 3 Casks of Nails for building Works & Fortifications
- 100 Battoes for the Train
- 1000 Shot for the 18 p^{drs}.
- 600 d^o. for the 32 p^{drs}.
- 600 d^o. for the 12 p^{drs}.
- 400 d^o. for the 6 p^{drs}

2400 lb Musket Ball for the Field pieces
 100 lb Sheet Lead for Aprons
 2 hand Screws
 1 Ginn
 6 Rammers & Spunges for 18 lb.
 6 Ladles & worms for d^o.
 8 Rammers, Spunges, Ladles & Worms for 8 Field pieces 6
 pound^{rs}
 2 d^o. d^o. d^o. d^o. for 32 pound^{rs}
 2 d^o. d^o. d^o. d^o. for 12 pound^{rs}
 18 priming Horns & Wires for Cannon
 20 Leather Bucketts
 200 Fuses for hand Grenades
 500 lb of Barr Iron
 2 Smiths & pay for them
 Carriages for Two 32 p^{drs}. for Two 12 p^{drs}. for Six 18 p^{drs}. and
 Eight 6 p^{drs}.— I mean their own & travelling Car-
 riages.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: <My> Letter to Gov^r Shirley
 <with> a list of Articles necessary
 <for> Crown Point Expedition

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

Frid^y Afternoon 20 June 1755

[SIR]

Mr Kennedy sometime ago lent Mr. Dies [a] Copy of this
 book which I had the reading of, and think there are some things
 in it which may be of use to you: Since that, this, and another
 Copy of Muller's which you had from Mr. Dies, were imported
 by Mr Noel, & Mr. Kennedy asked me if I would like one Set
 as there were two of each: I was glad of the Opportunity as I
 concluded the Loan of them might be agreeable to you: The

other which I have is to be sent to the Rhode Island Library instead of the Copy you have, if demanded. I am Sr

your very humble serv^t.

GW BANYAR

Mr Dies is to send for the Telescope this Afternoon & if I think it better than the Glass I sent of Mr. Kennedys shall not wait for further directions but send it:

GENERAL JOHNSON

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: June 20th. 1755

Banyars letter

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

<Friday, 11 oClock. 20 June 1755.

DEAR SIR>

My last was a Copy of <what I had> formerly wrote to you (signifying the Governors desire that you should order Carriages to be <made> for the four brass field Pieces) and adding <further> that if you thought proper to take any more small Cannon with you, the Governor desired you would get Carriages made for them also. The Letter I now inclose from him adds a Direction for building Batoes for the Cannon if you think proper. Whoever undertakes the Services need be under no apprehension on Account of their Pay, for the Reasons I gave in my last. As to yourself I understand the Assembly have agreed to advance you £50 tho as I understand it as yet, it is only in part of your Pay, whatever your Pay may be. It may be proper then for you to send down to Mess^{rs}. Colden & Kelly or whoever you think proper to receive that or any other Sum the Assembly may advance you, a Power to receive and pass a Receit for it in your Name <A Letter from you will be sufficient. A good> deal is said here about <Shott at Saraghtoga> 18 p^{drs}., if it was

known certainly <what> number were there, it might save the Carriage of some from hence to Albany. There are I think Cap^t Marshall's Return says 700 18 fl Shot in Albany. Are there any Ladles Rammers & Spunges Handspikes & Crows for the 6, 18 fl drs or 4 6 pdrs & how many.

If you can make those Shells do that are there and think another Mortar necessary the Governor will have no objection ag^t your taking that at Albany, to which I suppose the Shells there are suited. Or if you prefer the Mortar here you may have it, but there are no Shells of the proper Size here. Have you any and how many Granada Shells there. The Massachusets have provided 73 painted Canvasses but surely that is not enough. The Governor thinks it is, but I hope I shall prevail with him not to opose his opinion in Matters to which he must I think be a Stranger or not so good a Judge as those whose Business it is to point out the <Necessaries wanted. You have but little> time to spare therefore <when you write> be particular in what y<ou want. Have> you Horses Carriages & Men <for Transporta>tion ready to be got when wanted.

Some of the Council are displeased <at> the appointment of the present Pay Masters, fearing as there is no good understanding between you and them, you may find some difficulty about the provisions, which by the Act (which is very obscure) are to be lodged in their Hands. Are they to go with the provisions to del^r. them out to the Men as wanted? they can appoint nobody else to do their duty for them unless you are pleased to admit of it and I dare say they wont go in Person. Endeavours were not wanting to get the Paymastership or Commissaryship granted to Col. Cockcroft but they were ineffectual. I am not apprehensive of your finding any difficulty on Account of the provisions as I look upon it, they will, and every thing <else be under your own Power and direction. Mr. Shirley is> expected by some on Sunday <next but I think> he^{ll} not be here before the 25 <which will be> Wednesday.

The Governor is of opinion you will have too much upon your hands to do any thing in the Affair mentioned in the papers inclosed. I am with my hearty good wishes D^r. S^r.

your obed^t & very hble serv^t

GW BANYAR

GENERAL JOHNSON

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: June 20th. 1755
Banyars letter

FROM JAMES STEVENSON

A. L. S.

[Albany, June 20, 1755]

[¹
[] it very Improbable that []
[Gov^r] at Boston
[] lieve Brasier who went from hence on Wednesd[ay]
[] [Ev]ening with Letters for you will be the soonest
a[] Securest Hand I can send to New York as I expect
he [-] be here to Day.

It is Southerly Wind and I hear of no Sloop here that will go away this week unless it be some of those came from Jerseys who would not perhaps stop at New York If it be absolutely necessary to send an Express to N York let me know and I will endeavour to do it on the first Notice I have no Press Warrant nor have had any Occasion for one till Yesterday But now the people begin to be more Unwilling or more Stubborn than Usual But I hope Gov^r Shirely will be up Soon or some person that has Authority in Case it be wanted I shall be very Ready to do all in my Power to forwa[rd] the publick Service

¹ Lines missing at the top.

Killiaen DeRidder who I sent Express to Gov^r Shirely last Monday was a Week is not yet return'd I hope he will be here to Day and we may have a more Certai[n] Acco^t of Gov^r Shirely's Movement I am

Sir

Your most humble S[ervant]
[J^A. STEVENSON]

ADDRESSED: To The Honourable
Major General Johnson
at
Mount Johnson

FROM WILLIAM EYRE

A. L. S.

June 21, 1755

[SIR,]

I have just now heard that some of the Connecticut Troops will be here tomorrow. As the Express is just going I thought it proper to acquaint you of it, if they come, I shall do my endeavour to Assist them in their Encampm^t. as much as I can. I am S^r. very truly

y^r. Most ob^t. serv^t.

WILL: EYRE

Please to present my Comp^{ts}. to y^r. family
MAJOR GEN^L. JOHNSON

ADDRESSED:

To Major Gen^l. Johnson
at Mount Johnson.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: June 21st. 1755
Captⁿ. Eyres letter.

FROM WILLIAM EYRE

A. L. S.

<Albany 21st June 1755.S^r

I am favour^d with two of yr. Letters Yesterday morning¹ by Col. Lydius & last night by y^e. express, in consequence of the former I have apply'd to Col: Rentzeler & he> shew'd me <ground²> that <was used last War w^{ch} is now> under Corn: I believe 800 or <1000 Men may be> encamp'd in a field about half a Mile below <his house> belonging to Mr. Dow,³ but he not being at <home,> his Wife was afraid to give her Consent. I went after<wards up the> River as far as the flats, where we can easily encamp 2000 Men & upward if occasion requires, and that it should appear more prudent to fix them there than near the Town, where it will be impossible to keep them out, & from making beasts of themselves. I shall take an other ride this Day to find out the most convenient place at ye <back> or near y^e. fort,⁴ and if any Troops should arrive <before> you come here, I shall do my endeavour to fix <them> in the best Manner I can, and be of all the Use to them that lies in my Power.

I think this addition of Stores &c., is absolutely Necessary and if 1000 Hand Granades with their fuizes and 5 or 600 6 p^d. Ball more were likewise demanded, would be of great Use; for I see no Mention made of 6 p^d Ball in the Estimate for any other except 400, & their weight is not specified, & 100 for the Howitz

¹An autograph letter from Johnson at Mount Johnson to Captain Eyre, signed with initials and dated June 20, was sold in the A. H. Joline sale at the Anderson Galleries in New York City February 23, 1915. It mentions the Massachusetts List of Supplies.

²On the east bank of the Hudson opposite the south end of Albany, known in history as Fort Crailo.

³Douws Point on the east bank of the Hudson.

⁴Fort Frederick, site of the present State and Lodge streets, Albany.

nor do I observe that they have provided Granades, so that these two articles aded to y^r <demand> I hope will do. We have Several Cannoes <come here lately from Canada, with Skins to trade with the Inhabitants and I am almost persuaded the French have Spies amongst them; for some of the Indians speak all the Languages, I mean French dutch & English; and I do think it will be extremely wrong in us to Suffer them to return before we are ready to go from hence, as they will> undoubtedly inform the French <of every particular> that we are about, w^{ch}. must in <falliably be of> disservice to us, as nothing can more <promote> Military designꝰ than keeping them Secret from the Enemy.

In regard to Mr. Shirley's Letter, I thank you very kindly for the advice you give me. The Stile of his Epistle, I am so little accustom'd too, made it take the greater Impression. He is the first Gen^l officer that ever thought my Conduct was Irregular before, and I have served under the most knowing in his Majestys Service, and had the good fortune to be applauded rather than rebuked for my endeavours: I am obliged to you in not considering my zeal in the light that he is pleased to do; and I cannot help thinking that the greatest & most exact Deciplinarian could think I acted out of Character, as you was not to be come at easily, nor heard from in any reasonable time as things appear'd to me, nor he himself in y^e. Place to be consulted Upon that head besides my zeal & the design I came here upon prevented me from imagining <that> any Step that I thought necessary to take for y^e. good of y^e. <Service would> not be construed in y^e. light Major Gen^l Shirley considers it. I am S^t. very truly & Sincerely y^r. <most ob^t Serv^t.>

<WILL: EYRE>

INDORSED: [] Letter from
[Alb]any 21 June 1755.

INDIAN PROCEEDINGS ¹

Mount Johnson 15 May 1755-June 21, 1755

The Speech of the Hon^{ble}. William Johnson Esq^r. Sole Superintendant &c. of Indian Affairs to the Sachems & Warriors of the upper & lower Castle of Mohock Indians.

Pres^t.

Lieut Butler of Capt. Rutherfurds Comp^y.

Mr. Farrel

Mr. John Butler

Mr. Daniel Clause

Peter Wraxall Secr^y. for Indian Affairs

William Printup

& Interpreters

Jacobus Clement

Bretheren of both Castles of the Mohocks.

I wipe away all Tears from your Eyes & clear your throats that you may attend & speak without constraint.

I am glad to see you & heartily bid you welcome (gave a String of Wampum)

I hope you have complied with my desire signified to you by my Letter from New York w^{ch} I sent you on my arrival there from Virginia, requesting that all your Sachems & Warriors would stay at home & wait my return hither to hear what News

¹ This material deals with incidents preliminary to the Indian meeting of June 21 to July 4, 1755, at Mount Johnson. It is part of a considerable body of manuscript material in the Canadian Archives. Other portions from the same source, covering proceedings from July 27 to Dec. 4, are also included in this publication. The Canadian manuscripts not included embrace the meeting of June 21 to July 4 and proceedings comprised mainly within the dates, Dec. 7, 1755, and Feb. 1, 1756, which appear in *Doc. Rel to Col. Hist. N. Y.* All is in the hand of Wraxall. A formal introduction precedes in the original Braddock's commission of April 15 to Johnson.

& Commands I was charged with from His Excellency General Braddock a great Warrior whom the King our common Father hath sent over to this Country with a large Number of armed Men Great Guns & other Implements of War, to protect You & all his other Subjects on this Continent from the Incroachments & Insults of the French.

I went to wait on this Great Man with the Gov^{rs}. of Boston, New York, Pensilvania & Maryland, where we also found the Gov^r. of Virginia & another great Man who commands all the Kings Ships of War in these parts of the World.¹

At this grand Council many important Affairs were considered & agreed upon, amongst w^{ch}. the Welfare & Interest of our Bretheren of the Six Nations & their Allies bore a considerable Share

Bretheren

The Tree which You & the rest of the Six Nations have so often & so earnestly desired might be again set up is now raised, and fixt in the Earth by so powerful a hand, that Its Roots will take a firm & deep Footing & Its Branches be a refreshing & extensive Shade for You & all Your Allies to take Shelter under it; for I am to acquaint You, that conformable to the great King your Fathers Instructions to Gen^l. Braddock, I am appointed to the sole Managment & Superintendancy of all Affairs relating to You & your Allies w^h. may be transacted in these parts. And I do now invite You & all our Brethren of the Six United Nations & your Allies to come & sit under this Tree, where you may freely open your Hearts & get all your Wounds healed, And I do at the same time remove the Embers w^{ch}. remained at Albany & re-kindle the Fire of Council & Friendship at this Place, And I shall make it of such Wood as will give the clearest Light & greatest Warmth; I hope it will prove comfortable & useful to all such as will come & light their Pipes at it, & dazzle & scotch all those who are or may be Enemies to it.

¹ Commodore Augustus Keppel.

I expect that you Bretheren will on your Parts encrease the Lustre & Benefits of this Fire, By keeping it dressed up & attending it with that diligent Zeal as may render it a Blessing not only to your Selves but to your Posterity. To obtain and secure these Salutary Ends, it will be absolutely necessary for you totally to extinguish all other deceitful & unnatural Fires w^{ch} are made up to mislead & in the end destroy both you & yours.

(gave a Belt of Wampum)

Bretheren

With this String of Wampum I make this Council Room clean & free from every thing offensive & I hope you will take care that no Snake may creep in amongst us or any thing w^{ch} may obstruct our Harmony

(gave a String of Wampum)

Bretheren

It gives me no small concern to hear on my return hither that some of you from both Castles have Intentions of going to Canada. It would very much surprise me if You who have always been our steady Friends & nearest Neighbours should at any time discover an Inclination to be deluded by the wicked Artifices of the French so well known & so fatally experienced by you, but at this Juncture when that restless and perfidious Nation are breaking thro their solemn Treaties & violating all the obligations of honour & of Justice, is the more astonishing. I hope my Information hath no just Grounds, and I must desire you & insist upon it, that none of you do upon any Account whatsoever form a Correspondence with the French, harbour any of their Emissarys or visit Canada without my knowledge or Approbation.

And Hereupon I give you this Belt.

I propose imediately to call a Meeting of our other Bretheren of the Six Nations at this our Fire Place & I expect that you will be ready to come with them hither, when I shall deliver to you all a Speech from His Excell^y. Gen^l. Braddock together with a Present which the Great King your Father hath sent you by that Warrior.

After some time spent in Consultation amongst themselves Abraham a Sachem of the Upper Castle spoke for both as follows.

Brother

You called us down to tell us what News you had brought with you & we have heard what you have now said to us. We shall defer entering into a particular Detail of Affairs till the Six Nations meet you here.

(returned a String of Wampum)

Brother

We thank you for the Ceremony of wiping away the Tears from our Eyes & clearing our throats as likewise for cleaning the Floor. We do the same to you with this String of Wampum

(gave a string)

Bro^r.

In compliance with your Request we have met you here, & have attentiv'ly heard all you have said and return you our thanks, for y^r. friendly Information. We are rejoiced to see you again & we bid you also Welcome with a String of Wampum. (gave one)

Brother

We have often requested of our Father the Great King that the Tree (meaning Col^l. Johnson) should be raised up again; We are very much rejoiced that our Father hath at length complied with our Request & do most sincerely thank him for the same: It gives us the highest Satisfaction to hear what you have now told us concerning this Tree. We sincerely wish it may long continue such as you have described it in your Speech & we are very thankful to you for all you have said to us on that Article.

Bro^r.

You tell us that as the Tree of Shelter is now replanted here, you have removed the Embers from Albany and rekindled the Fire of Council & Friendship here & that it shall be made of Good & lasting Wood, such as will burn clear, give a comfortable

& useful heat to those who come to it as Friends and scotch & dazzle those who are Enemies. Our Forefathers kindled the first Fire at Onondaga from whence they carried Fuel & made another at the Habitation of Quider (meaning Albany) this Fire never burnt Clear & it was just expiring, We are therefore much rejoiced to hear you have rekindled the Fire here.

Brother

You have invited us & all our Bretheren of the Six united Nations & their Allies to come & sit under this aforesaid Tree, to light their Pipes at the Council Fire here that we & they should contribute to maintain & preserve it; We make no doubt but they will all be very glad to hear it as it has been long their Unanimous desire to have it here but we must refer a particular answer to this part of your Speech till all the Nations meet you here in a Body.

Bro^r.

We thank You for making this Council Room Clean & removing every thing Offensive from it, You may be assured that we will on our parts Contribute to keep it so & drive every thing away w^{ch}. may tend to obstruct our mutual Harmony

Bro^r.

You have told us of your Information about some of our People's designing to go over to the French & put us in mind of their Behaviour to our Forefathers, w^{ch} we well remember for their Bones are to be still seen. We know the French to be False & treacherous, they have spoke as fair outwardly, but while their Lips were smooth, their Hearts were full of Poison against us. You Bro^r. are acquainted with our Circumstances like one of our selves and you know that the rest of the 6 Nations are jealous of us because we made use of the Hatchet last War against the French, and shall we now prove false & Deceitful, No, you may assure your self we shall not offer to go to Canada upon any French Errand for we are not such good Friends with them and therefore Brother dont credit any such Reports concerning us.

Bro^r.

We once more return you our hearty thanks for every thing you have now said to us & as we have already told you must defer a more particular Answer till the Meeting of the Six Nations with you. We thank you for your Invitation to meet you here along with the rest of our Bretheren & we shall not fail to attend you with them.

Mount Johnson 16 May 1755.

The Sachems of the Upper Mohock Castle having desired a Conference with Co^l. Johnson. The Secre^y. for Indian Affairs & the Two Interpreters being present,

Abraham spoke for them & said.

Bro^r.

When you were at New York you sent us word that both our Sachems & Warriors should stay at home & wait your return hither. We have done so, and why should we not, when at all time we have shown our readiness to oblige you, more especially are we disposed so to do, now you tell us you are again raised up to be our Tree of Shelter, and we doubt not our Bretheren of the other Five Nations will be equally disposed to obey you.

Bro^r.

It is a truth that we have been always Obedient & Obliging to You, and when the News came that you desired us to stay at home, our Young Men were going out a hunting & by being stoped are now left destitute of every thing for their Subsistence, and Bro^r. they have desired of us Sachems to plead with You on their behalf, that as they have been kept from hunting in order to subsist themselves, to beg you will give them a little Pouder & Shot that they may kill some Game for their Support, And as it will be some time before the 5 Nations can attend you & receive the Present w^{ch} the King our Father hath sent for them & us, We hope you will supply our present necessities.

Bro^r.

As we apprehend troublesome times are approaching We must renew our Request so often made to this Gov^t. that we may have some Place of Security built for our Wives & Children & we hope you will now comply with it.

Colonel Johnson Answered**Bretheren**

I am fully convinced of your kind Dispositions towards me & your readiness at all times to hearken to & observe what I say to & request of you: I was therefore the more ready to take upon me the sole Managment of your Affairs and w^{ch}. I hope from this fresh Testimony of your Love & Regard for me I shall be enabled to carry on with credit & pleasure to my self & Beneficially to you & yours.

I am sensible the detaining your Young Men at home at this Season must put you & them to some Inconvenience & therefore I shall comply with your Desire & give you some Pouder & Shot.

Before I left New York I urged to Your Brother the Govr. the necessity of building a Secure Retreat for your Families & I do with pleasure acquaint you that he has empowered me to do it & I shall set about it with all possible Dispatch.

Mr. Arent Stevens**Mount Johnson 17 May 1755**

By His Majestys Instructions to His Excellency General Braddock he hath appointed & commissioned me to the sole Superintendency & Mannagment of all Affairs relating to the Six Nations & their Allies. You will therefore take notice hereafter to follow such and only such orders as you shall receive from me relating thereto.

I send you this Letter by Jacobus Clement & by him Five Belts of Wampum, both for the 5 upper Nations. One you are to give them in my name and to acquaint them, that the Troops w^{ch} are on their March & may be here after sent to Oswego, are to reinforce that Garrison & secure it against all Hostile attempts of the French, who have said that it belongs niether to us nor to the Six Nations & that they would kick it down with their foot; I did send a string of Wampum with this Message on my coming home, but lest that should not be sufficient I now send this Belt.

If you find that either from their Jealousy or from the Lying Insinuation of the French Emissary, that the 5 Nations are

uneasy and alarmed at seeing these Troops march through their Country, You are to assure them in my name, that they are intended for the Security & benefit of our Bretheren of the Six Nations & their Allies & exhort them not to give Ear to any Lie w^{ch} the French may tell them on this Occasion whose Desire & design it is to lull us and them asleep & then cut us both off from the Face of the Earth, and they well know the most easy way to do this is to disturb & destroy that Brotherly Love & Confidence w^{ch}. hath so long & so happily subsisted between us; these with such other arguments as Circumstances may require you will make use of to them.

The other belt I send you is to acquaint the Five Nations with my Appointment by The King their Fathers Orders & at their repeated Desire to the sole Managment of their Affairs & that I do by this Belt according to General Braddocks Directions invite and call upon the Six united Nations & their Allies to meet me with all possible Speed at my House here, where I have rekindled the Council Fire of Friendship & replanted a Tree of Shelter for them & all those who will come & sit under it. That I have a Present for them from the Great King their Father, a great deal of good News to impart to them & to take Council with them upon many affairs of the highest Consequence to their Welfare & Happiness.

If you find any Arts made use of by the French to prevent their Meeting me, You must make use of the best & properest Arguments to remove those Impressions & insist upon their Obediance & Compliance.

If they say they are planting their Corn & if they should come now they will loose their Crops & be in want of Food, you must tell them I will take Care & make up to them what Losses they may suffer hereby, but on this Article you must act with Prudence & promise with Caution.

I have had a meeting with the Two Mohock Castles upon the Subjects of both these Belts, they are satisfied & have promised to join with & meet me when the other Nations come down w^{ch}. you must hasten all in your Power.

With Mr. Clement I send you some Goods to make use of as occasion may require & when you have bro^t. the Indians to the German Flatts you are to find them Provisions to my House keeping an Acc^t. of your Expences.

Mount Johnson 20 May 1755 —

This day Coll. Johnson dispatched Mr. John Butler & Mr. John Wemp with 4 Indians of the lower Mohock Castle¹ with His Packet to General Braddock.

Mount Johnson 20 May 1755.

Instructions to William Printup Interpreter Whom Coll. Johnson dispatched with the Speech here following to the Indians living at Ochquago & on the Susquahanna

You are to set off tomorrow Morrow Morning with the Party whom I am sending to General Braddock and on your arrival at Achquago, you are to call a Meeting of the Indians living in those parts & deliver to them in my name the Speech on the other side, at the same time showing the Belt & desiring them to be ready to accompany you hither on your return. You are then to go down the River as far as Tyaogo where you are to assemble those Indians together, make the same Speech to them & go with them to Achquago & then proceed with both Parties hither.

Bretheren of the Five Nations and others living at Ochquago and all along the River Susquahanna.—

You must remember that I was the first who opened the Road between You & us and at a different time, we then promised each other to take care of it & keep it clear so that if at any time any thing should happen to either of us the News might soon reach the other & by this means come to each others assistance. I have been for some time weak & not able to do much more at the Road than to keep it open, but, now I can with pleasure tell you that I have recovered my Strength & am buisy to make all the Roads between us & our Bretheren wider & Pleasanter than

¹ Vacant place in the original.

ever, but it will not be quite perfect unless you lend a helping hand which I desire you will now do & come & smoak a Pipe with me when I shall tell you some News that will not only be agreeable but advantageous to you. I expect you will not delay but make all the Haste you can as I shall be looking out for you every day.

A Belt.

The 15th. of May 1754.¹ Col^l. Johnson sent Two Onondaga Indians as Spies to Cadaraqui to bring All the Intelligence concerning the motions of the French w^{ch} they could obtain. The 22^do. he sent a white Man with three Mohock Indians to Crown Point to make what Discoveries & gain all the Intelligence they could.

The 20 of May. Col. Johnson sent for Peter a Mohock Indian who had staid at the Mohock Castle since last fall (with a sore leg) but for 16 years past has resided in Canada & was last War one of the most active Indians in the French Interest. The Col^l. used many Arguments to prevail with him to remain here to send for his Wife & Family from Canada & quit all his Attachments to the French. he took the String of Wampum w^{ch} the Col gave him to enforce what he had said & having considered for Two days, returned & assured the Col^l. he would comply with his Exhortations, send for his Wife & Family & remain true to the English, upon w^{ch}. the Col^l. assured him he would take Care of him & his Family & make him made a Sachem—

Albany 28 May 1755—

Colonel Johnson being in this City Five Cagnawaga Indians came to his House & said.

hearing you were in Town we proposed waiting on you Yesterday but as our chief Man was in Liquor we deferred it till this Morning.

¹ Should be 1755.

We are now come altogether to wait on you & are very glad to see you well.

The Col. Replied.

I thank you for this mark of your respect & I am glad to see you well.

They staid & talked some time & the Col gave them 3 or 4 drams of Rum apiece & some Money to a Squaw & Children they brought with them.

at this time while Col. Johnson was at Albany The Commissioners gave up to him Four Belts of Wampum w^{ch}. they received last year from the French Indians & said they had no others in their possession, but that Arent Steivens the Interpreter had carried up some with him to condole with the Five Nations upon some Deaths amongst them.

The 6 June. The White Man & y^e 3 Mohock Indians who Col. Johnson sent 22^d. Ult^o. to Crown Point as Spies returned. They say they went & posted themselves on a Hill from whence with the help of a Spying Glass they could see into the Fort, they remained here all day, they saw only a few People Astirring in & about the Fort & could make no further Discoveries.

The 4th & 5 June Col Johnson went to the Mohock & Cannogohary Castles to fix on proper places to build the Forts on for said Indians. When he directed the Cannogohary to send down some Young Men to go as Spies to Crown Point.

The 7 June. Three Cannogohary Indians came to Col Johnson to go as Spies to Crown Point to whom he joined Two white Men & 1 Mohock & dispatched them thither with proper Instructions.

Mr. Arent Stevens

Mount Johnson 7 June 1755

I send you three Barrels of Beef & Pork for the use of the Six Nations w^{ch} you are to distribute equally amongst them, get as much Peas, Corn & Bread from the Germans living at Burnets Field as will serve them till they get here, be careful to prevent

their getting Liquor from the Inhabitants lest they commit any violence by the way. As soon as you arrive with them at the German Flatts dispatch a trusty Indian with a few Lines letting me know the day I may expect them here. You are to call upon the Cannogoharys & tell them they must set out the next day after the Six Nations have passed their Castle, make the same known to the Mohocks

I am

Mr. Arent Stevens

Mount Johnson 10 June 1755

If the Six Nations should stop at Cannojohary Castle a Day, you must provide them with some Provisions for that time & bring me an Acct of the Expences thereof as well as all other Expences you have been at on that Service

I am

Yours

Will Johnson

Mr. Jacobus Clement

Mount Johnson 11 June 1755.

You are to proceed with all possible dispatch & join Arent Stevens, to assist him in bringing down the Indians, to preserve good Order amongst them & prevent their doing any Mischief to the Inhabitants on their way hither.

The Three Advertisements I give you herewith you are to set up in the most public places the Indians are to pass thro & make the same public to the Inhabitants as you go along

Y^{rs}.

W. Johnson

When Scaroooyady or the half King, came into these parts last Winter to meet the great Council of the 6 Nations at Onondaga, he made Col. Johnson many Professions of his Esteem & Friendship, & that he would at all times be ready to listen to & comply with Col^l Johnsons Requests. Upon the Col^{ls} return from Alexandria & by Appointment to the Sole Managment of Indian

Affairs, he sent a belt of Wampum to the said half King informing him of the same, desiring him to assist the cause of the English & to attend General Braddock with all the Warriors under his Influence.

This Day the 13 June 1755. Col. Johnson received a Letter from Mr. Croghan at Fort Cumberland In closing him the following Speech to him from the half King being in answer to the One before mentioned w^{ch} Col Johnson had sent to him.

Fort Cumberland 15 May 1755

Brother

This day I received a Speech delivered me by George Croghan in your name. I have been here these four days waiting on the General with all the Warriors I had at George Croghans House, he himself came in Company with us.

Brother

I am glad to hear our Father the King of England has appointed You to take care of the Indians You are will known to us & a Man we can trust. I assure you that I & all my People here will heartily join the General & go with him to fight the French & I hope you will send what Warriors you can Spare to join us & we assure you we shall always be ready and to confirm, what we now say to you we present you this Belt of Wampum

gave a Belt.

The 13 June Colonel Johnson having received Intelligence from some Mohock Indians that they had that Morning discovered a Party of Annagongue¹ Indians (who live in Canada & are in the French Interest) within 5 miles of the Colonels House; he sent a message by the said Mohock Indians to their Castle, asserting that they should send some of their Young Men to join the Scouting Party he was going to send out, and that if on the Occasion they did not show this Zeal & readiness to join us against

¹ Abenakis.

these our Enemies it would give us Cause to be Jealous that they connived at these Hostile proceedings. Soon after three or four of their Warriors came & acquainted the Colonel that they were Voluntarily come & were ready to go out, accordingly they accompanied about 20 of Col Johnsons Servants who went & ranged the Woods in his Neighbourhood. The next day all the Sachems & Warriors of the aforesaid Castle met in Council to deliberate on the Message sent them by Colonel Johnson w^{ch} held till that night.

Mount Johnson 15 June 1755.—

This Afternoon the aforesaid Chief Sachems & Warriors came in a Body to Colonel Johnsons & the following is the Conference w^{ch} ensued.

Pres^t.

The Hon^{ble}. Col. Johnson

Peter Wraxall Secretary for Indian Affairs.

Mr. Daniel Clause & Jonathan Stevens Interpreters.

Peter a Warrior rose up & said

Brother

I address my self to you in the Names & on the behalf of all the Warriors here present & our Uncles the Sachems.

We thank God who daily preserves our Lives for the present Opportunity of meeting you here for the frequent Advantages we enjoy of consulting & conferring with you.—

Some time after Canadagaia Chief Sachem of the Bear Tribe rose up & spoke as follows.

Brother

We the three Tribes of the Mohock Castle are now come to you according to our wonted Custom, when we have consulted upon any thing of Importance to communicate it to You whom we look upon as one of our selves.

Brother

You told some of our People that the day before Yesterday that our Sittuation was at present dangerous & that we ought to

protect our Neighbourhood & our own Possessions; but as we are not perfectly clear in the Report w^{ch} was made us of your message we are now come that we may be fully satisfied in what manner you would have behave.

We were yesterday most part of the Day in Council upon the Message w^{ch} was brought us from you, but as we were under some uncertainties about it, We are now come both Sachems & Warriors to hear from your own Mouth distinctly what you have to say on the aforesaid Subject.

Brother

You sent us Word to keep a good look out against our Enemies; You who are our near Neighbour & so well acquainted with us, know that our Warriors are easily roused & soon prepared against their Enemies therefore lest their Warlike Dispositions should hurry them on too precipitately & they begin their War Song without due Cause, we thought it prudent to learn from you the true Grounds of your aforesaid Message & therefore our chief Warriors are now here present to receive your Instructions to them & We Sachems leave them to do as they shall judge most proper.

Colonel Johnson withdrew & having directed the following Speech to be drawn, returned to them & replied as follows.

Bretheren

Two days ago I received certain Intelligence from some of our Bretheren here present, that a Party of Annagongue Indians were seen & spoke with a few Miles from my house upon which I sent notice to your Castle by the Indians who gave me this Information. It appears to me that these Indians must have come upon ill Designs & with hostile Intentions, and I am the more fully assured of it as the Cagnawaga Indians have lately twice told me at Albany, that notwithstanding they had forewarned them & forbid them to injure or make War upon any of the English, they said they were hungry after English Flesh & were detirmined to eat some & they have accordingly scalped & taken some Prisoners on the Borders of New England, and I suppose if I had not timely prevented them by sending out Parties, they would have

done the same here, and I am still keeping Parties out to watch for them, round Albany, Schenectady & this Neighborhood.

Bretheren

When it is considered, that, these Indians came & made a Solemn Treaty of Peace last Fall at Albany, that our Bretheren the Cagnawagas have forbid them to break that Peace, for them not only to murder & take Prisoners our Bretheren in New England but to come here even under your own Noses to do the same — I say when these things are considered, I think your Blood ought to rise as well as ours as we are one Blood & one Heart, and that these Indians deserve to be severely punished for their Treachery, their spilling the Blood of our Bretheren & their Insolence in coming into our Neighbourhood upon the same Designs.

however Bretheren as I would at all times be very cautious of inflaming your young Men without very just Grounds & have so much Brotherly Love for them that I would not without apparent necessity expose them to any Danger, I will only at present say, that as our mutual safety & honour is at stake, I expect & desire that if these Indians continue to behave as Enemies Your Warriors will be ready to join mine and treat them as they deserve.

Gave a Belt.

Mount Johnson 17. June 1755 —

This afternoon Will^m. Printop Interpreter arrived from the Susquahanna with 2 or 3 chiefs with him & reports that he came within about 40 miles of this Place with a great number of the Indians living in those parts their women & Children who he expects will be all here to morrow.

he gave Col. Johnson Two Belts, one from the Indians living on the Susquahanna River who are a mixture of the 5 Nations, w^{ch} they send in return to One sent them by Col. Johnson to invite them to the Meeting here with a Message of thanks & that they would attend. The Other Belt from the King of the Schanehadigroenes¹ with the following Speech from him.

¹ Nanticokes.

Brother

I am very much rejoiced to hear that the King our Father hath granted the Request of the several Nations of Indians our Bretheren, by appointing You to the Managment of our Affairs. It gives me a real Concern that my present ill state of Health would not allow me to come my self but I have sent my own Son in my room, and with this Belt I¹ all Tears from your Eyes & cleanse your Throat so that you may see Clear & speak with all our Bretheren who are to meet you, to your mutual Satisfaction.
(a Belt)

In the Evening Cap^t. Stoddert arrived with several Sachems & Warriors of the following Nations viz. Senecas, Onondages, Cayouges & Tiedagrigoenes.² Whom Col. Johnson sent for up, & to whom he paid the usual Compliments of Welcome (giving each a Dram of Rum, a Pipe & some Tobacco) they said the remainder of their People would be down tomorrow.

Mount Johnson 19 1755.

Arrived this afternoon a large Party Connojoherys, Oneidas, Tuscorores, Schanahadargroenes & the Indians from the Susquahanna. Nothing passed but Comp^{ts}. & welcome.

The 20 — This Evening the Sachems of Cayouga came & presented a Young Sachem to Col. Johnson for His Approbation. he approved of him & gave him an Exhortation on the Occasion. The next day he gave the s^d. Sachem a Medal & cloathed him with a Laced Coat Laced Hat &c.

The 21. This Morning another Party of Onondagas, Oneidas & Tuscarores arrived to the Am^t. of 105. and say some more are yet behind.

at Dinner Time the Sachems & Warriors of the hither Mohock Castle March'd to Col^l. Johnsons with the Rev^d. Mr Ogilvie

¹ Word omitted; probably "wipe."

² A tribe of the Catawbases.

their Missionary & their Chief Sachem at their Head & made a fine appearance.—

TO THE COMMANDING OFFICER OF SIR
WILLIAM PEPPERRELL'S REGIMENT

*Df.*¹

Mount Johnson 21 June 1755

<SIR

As the Indians are now down at my House & as the affairs I have to treat with them are of the utmost consequence to His Majestys Service, it is a matter of great Moment to keep them in god Temper & to> avoid giving them the <least Disgust. They> are a People naturally haughty & <mistrustful.>

I must beg therefore that you will please <to give the> Strictest Orders to all your People who <may pass> either by Land or by Water near my house, either in the Sight or Hearing of the Indians, <that> they will not behave or speak to them (many of them understand a good deal of English) in any manner likely to give offence, and also that the Officer Commanding any Companies w^{ch} may march this way by Land, will please to halt his Men when he is within Sight of my House & give me previous Notice of their Approach.

I would not give you this Trouble were not His Majesties Service concerned in it. I am Sir

Your very hum Serv^t

To the Commanding Officer
of Sir W^m Pepperills Reg^t.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: June 20th 17<55>

Letter to ye. Comm^ds Offi<cers>
of Pepperrills & Schuylers
Regiment.

¹ In handwriting of Peter W^raxall.

...to all of our Regiments
...by David on the 1st of June 1755
...in the light of the day
...will not be found or pickt to them for any
...to give offence, and also that the Officer in Command
...ing any Company will mark this way by having
...will stay to halt his Men when he is ordered by
...of any House & give me previous Notice of their going

I would not give you the trouble of
His Majesty has in command in it.

Mount Johnson
20 June 1755.

Yours
Yours very humble

To the Commanding Officer
of the 1st Regt of Foot
P. W. R.

Peter W. R.
H. D. C.

TO CAPT. EDMOND MATTHEWS OR THE COMMANDING OFFICER

*Df.*¹

<SIR

Mount Johnson 21 June 1755

Whereas a great Number of Indians are now with me in order for my treating with them upon the present Situation of public Affairs; I think it extreamly necessary to > facilitate His Majestys Service <at this important> conjuncture, that at this time, the Cag<nawaga Indi>ans who may come to Albany, receive no <disturbance> or Injury whatsoever. I do therefore strictly <order> & direct all Officers & Soldiers under my Command to give the said Cagnawaga Indians no ill usage of any kind, and you are to take care that these my Orders are strictly complied with & to put all offenders against them into Confinement, for w^{ch} purpose you are to publish them at the head of the respective Companies. I am Sir

Your hum serv^t

To CAPT EDMOND MATHEWS or the Commanding Officer of the New Levies at Albany.

SIR

Whereas

I must therefore request that you will take effectual Measures to prevent any Officer or Soldier under your Command from giving any abuse or ill usage whatsoever to the said Cagnawaga Indians as it may at this time be of the utmost prejudice to his Majestys Service & the public Welfare I am, Sir

Y^r most hum serv^t

<To the> Commanding officer of

<his> Majestys Troops at Albany.

INDORSED BY WRAXALL: Col. Johnson to the Commanding Officers of the Kings Troops & of the New Levies ab^t Cagnawaga Indians

21 June 1755

¹ In handwriting of Peter Wraxall.

² Leaders in the original. Words between "Whereas" and "I do" in the letter to Mathews to be inserted in fair copy.

TO DAVID VANDER HEYDEN

Df.¹

Mount Johnson 21 June 1755.

[²

If the Cagnawaga Indians have any thing to say of a public Nature or want to speak to me please to let me know [] you shall hear from me. I am Sir

Your hum serv^t.TO DAVID VANDER HEYDEN Esq^r.

in Albany

I desire you will let the Cagnawaga Indians know the Orders I have given.

REPORT OF MEETING

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar by an imperfect report of the Mount Johnson meeting with nine nations, which began June 21st (printed entire in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:964-89). Not destroyed in the fire.

PROCEEDINGS OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Extract³

<The Secretary for Indian Affairs⁴ his Note in the proceedings at the Conference between the Indians & Col. Johnson> at Mount Johnson <21st June 1755.>

Col: Lydius came to Mount Johnson with <an Interpreter employ'd> by Gov^r: Shirley, & several Indians complain'd to <Col: Johnson> that Lydius had been privately perswading them <to go to> Niagara wth: him and Gov^r: Shirley, and they express'd their Displeasure at this Application of Lydius's;

¹ In handwriting of P. Wraxall.

² A partially burned request to deliver the two preceding letters.

³ By Shirley's secretary. See Johnson to Shirley, July 15, 1755; Shirley to Johnson, July 17, 1755.

⁴ Compare *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 986-87.

upon w^{ch}. Col. Johnson spoke to Mr. Lydius,¹ who shew'd him Gov'r: Shirley's Orders <for> what he had done: Col. Johnson forbid him & the Interpreter <to> interfere any further with the Indians, as it had, & would occa<sion> an Uneasiness amongst 'em, w^{ch}. might be prejudicial to the Interest in general.

EDWARD BRADDOCK TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

Extract

"Captⁿ. Bradstreet writes me some Intelligence <from Oswego and> concludes with the necessity of supplying with Pro<vision & Presents> many Indians, w^{ch}. frequently come among 'em, & w^{ch}. <might> be entirely secur'd by such Measures: You must remember, Sir, at our Conference at Alexandria a particular Sum was appropriated for Presents to be made at Oswego & Col. Johnson having unlimited Credit for that Purpose, some Mistake must consequently have arisen w^{ch}. you will very much oblige me to remove."

INDORSED: Extract from Major General
Braddock's Letter to Gov^r.
Shirley dated June 22^d. 1755.

¹ John Henry Lydius, a son of Rev. John Lydius, Reformed Dutch minister of Albany, was born in 1693. He married a half-breed, became a successful merchant and Indian trader and as such was a competitor of Johnson. His house near the Great Carrying Place at Fort Edward, was long a favorite rendezvous. It was sacked and burned in November 1745 by Marin in transit to the destruction of Saratoga. In 1750 Lydius lived in Albany, as a trader, and acted as an agent for the exchange of prisoners. Johnson for years distrusted him, openly accused him of being a dangerous man and charged him with sending to Canada a packet containing an account of a skirmish between a band of Indians and Albanians. Shirley always held Lydius in high estimation and intrusted him with several delicate transactions with the Indians. It was Lydius who negotiated a purchase of the Wyoming valley for the Connecticut company. In 1776 Lydius removed to England and in 1791 died near Kensington, aged ninety-eight years.

TO WILLIAM EYRE

Df.¹*Mount Johnson 23 June 1755*

<SIR

I have your > favour of the <21 Ins^t I hope Mr Dow will,> I think he ought to consent the <Troops may be> encamped on the Ground you mention <& if the officers do> their Duty I think they may easily prevent <their Men from> coming over the River into the Town. I know <there is> room at the Flatts & I would prefer their Encamping there, but that would be the means of giving the Enemy more certain & particular Intelligence of our Measures by means of the French Indians, whereas by our Forces being encamped on the S. West end of Albany they may naturally suppose they belong to the Troops destined to Oswego. I heartily wish none of the Cagnawaga Indians were to come to or near Albany at this time but as they are a part of the 5 Nations & still considered by them as Brethren, & as I hope by the Influence of our Indians & the Measures I shall take relating to the Cagnawaga Indians, to keep them at least strictly Neutral, if not prevail on them to Quit the French Interest, I think it would be very impolitic to treat them at this time as Enemies, besides it may tend to disgust & over set my Measures with the Indians here. We must therefore for the present hold our hands & submit to one Inconveniency to avoid a greater. For these reasons I have wrote Letters to the Commanding Officer of the Kings Forces at Albany & another to the Commanding officer of the New Levies to <prevent any Disturbances being given to the Cagnawaga Indians at present, and beg you will please to repeat the same to them & desire they will govern themselves> accordingly. None of these <Cagnawagas are concerned> in the Mischiefs lately done on the con<trary they dis>approve them & wish those Indians were <cut off.>

As to the Additional Stores you mention, <it is not> too

¹ In handwriting of Peter Wraxall.

late to apply to Mr Shirley by Letter < We will > See what can be done in another way by & by as I expect to meet him in a few days.

Gov^r. DeLancey has directed me to get the proper Carriages made for the Four Brass Field pieces at Albany & that he will answer the payment of the Workmen.

You will please therefore to get them immediately put in hand at Albany, by the best Workmen you can get.

I am much obliged to you for your Zeal & Activity & I beg the continuance of it. You may depend on the return of my services to you wherein they may be useful. I am Sir

Your very hum Serv^t.

The Cap^{ts} of the Several Companys must make out Returns of their Companys for my Inspection. Sir Names — ages — where born — what Trades. These COLUMNS will be suff^t.

To CAPT EYRE at Albany

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Letter to Cap^t. Eyre

23 June 1755.

TO JAMES STEVENSON

*Df.*¹

Mount Johnson 23 June 1755

<SIR

This Express tells me he is under great difficulties to get Horses to bring the Dispatches hither wh. may come for me to Albany on His > Majestys Service. <I do, therefore, by virtue > of the Powers granted me by <the Lieu^t. Gov^r. conform > able to the Act of Assembly empower <you to press > Horses & Men in order to forward my <Dispatches & for > payment of the same Maj^r. General Shirley will be answerable to you in failure of w^{ch}. I will. You will on Gov^r. Shirleys arrival apply to him on this Head & in case he refuses to pay You, let me know in time that I may apply to him.

¹ In handwriting of Peter Wraxall.

I hope you gave my Letter for Gov^r. Shirley to Brazier if not send it ~~to~~ first Sloope to New York

I am Sir Your very hum serv^t

To JAMES STEVENSON, Esq^r. at Albany

Put the hour you dispatch the Expresses on your Letters

INDORSED BY WRAXALL.

<Col. Johnson's> Letter <to Mr> Stevenson of Albany
with Power to Press. 23 June 1755.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

<New York, Tuesday the 24 June 1755.

DEAR SIR

I received your Letter of the 14 not till an hour after the> Post was dispatch^d yesterday <Morning, so your Letter to> Governor (Benning) Wentworth, must lye til I <find an opp^y to> convey it to him. If as I suppose it relates to the <Rout their> Forces are to take, it will probably be too late, as I <think they must have> been sometime on their March. The Success you <are likely> to meet with as to Indians affords me a real Pleasure, <not only> on account of their assistance, but as it will fix the Manage <ment> of their Affairs where it is already placed, and where, if no other than publick Views had influenced, it would have been long ago. New Hampshire, Connecticut or Rhode Island, find no part of the Train, which is absolutely left to Massachusets and this Province, the former will furnish, I suppose, the Articles I sent you, and now inclose again, at the ffoot of which you <see> we take in every thing else in the Estimate, except 1200 w^t. of Lead, Carpenters & Smiths: If there be any use of the former, pray point it out, & whether you may depend on getting a sufficient number of those Tradesmen in the Army, if not, they must be procured otherwise,

as they are indispensibly necessary: At all Events they may be got at Albany, the Provisions given by Pensilvania is a Fund sufficient to answer all Expences I hope. This Government have really the Service at heart, but having no principal Hand in the Management, & the other Gov^{ts}. to whom a Proposal was made to furnish the Train in lieu of those Provisions, not letting the Province know their Determination til much time was lost, and the other Provinces making no Provision in regard to Ind^s till Massachusetts did very lately, are the true Causes of the Backwardness you observe here: It is a Satisfaction however that you will not wait for the Train, at least for our part of it, which Mr Dies assures me will be all ready (except a few Pick Ax(es) > by this day Se'enight, and may be then put on Board. The Gov^r. told me yesterday, he had sent Directions for making Carriages for the 6, 18 p^{drs} at Albany, those made here <will be sent nevertheless, & you may take your choice if those at Albany are finished time enough, which I hardly think, and if Care be not taken, their putting these large ones in hand there, may prevent those for the four field Pieces & such other small ones as you may want, being finished by the time you move. The> Governor in a Letter I sent you last week, desires <you to> order Batoes to be built for the Cannon, there will be <a Coil or two> of Rope wanting, which with every thing else <Mr Dies, or> my self can think of, I will endeavor to get <order by the Gov^r>

Be not apprehensive of there not being Powder <enough allowed.> we have a suff^t quantity here, and when Mr. Shirley <arrives> (who is expected to Morrow by his last Letter, but wont I believe be here so soon) that Point will be settled. I send you inclosed Gov^r DeLancey's Commission and Instructions to you, in which you will find this material Alteration, that instead of conforming to his (I mean Gov. Shirley's) future Instructions, where the Instructions are silent, you are to act discretionally with the advice of a Council of Warr. Col. Moses Titcomb is to be the third officer, who was left by this, to the

appointment of Massachusetts. I shall remember your observations, on Indian Arms, Gun Powder, Paint & the Carriage of their Provisions. Massachusetts have voted a Sum for Indians, but you are to draw for it you see, & must consequently provide what you think proper, whatever ours provide for the Indians I will send you an immediate account of. Those are things which ought to have been provided long ago; It is out of my Power to *do* much, but I will not be wanting in putting others in mind of what is necessary as far I can judge. General Braddock you see march'd the 10th. On the 7th. the Eastern Forces sailed from Anapolis to Chignecto,¹ where they will find tough Work I am told. Some of our Soldiers were sent to Menis to disarm the Neutrals & disarmed about 300. Our Assembly still continue sitting & will not rise till the next Week I believe. A Law to prevent the Sale of Rum to the Indians is passed both Houses, which will be printed & sent as soon as possible. I saw your Letter about the Cachnawagas. it is a nice point, and needs great Caution, but I think it is not to be doubted, that as soon as they discover our Intentions to Crown Pt they will alarm the Canadians. On which this question naturally arises, whether it be good Policy to suffer the Cachnawagas to view our Preparations & return to Canada at pleasure? what the Indians hear only, will not be so convincing as what they see, nor will equal Credit <be given to their accounts founded on what they hear among us. On the other Hand, what is likely to be the consequence of stopping those who may be at Albany when the army are just on the March? Of the two Evils you will I know take the least, of which you will be the best Judge. You'l not forget what you mentioned to me as> to sending a Force before you, to secure <the Posts you may want,> and may not such a Party be usefully employed <in clearing the> Road between Hudson's River & where you take water <again. My> opinion is there will be no great danger of their meeting with a

¹ Cf. Parkman, *Montcalm and Wolfe*, 1:256.

superior Force. If you should get thither without any opp<osition> will it be practicable to secure any Pass on Lake Iroquois or Champlain to prevent the French sending Succours: There <will> be no time to do this by building a Vessell, unless this may be done by an advanced Party at the Head of the South Bay.

A French Jesuit at Paris in a Letter of the 4 feby to the President of the College at Quebec, says, 6,000 Men are to be sent over from France & advised that the Stores at Montreal be well filled with Prov^s. But as Mons^r. Vaudrille was to go with them, they might not be expected so soon: We have no advice of such a Force being sailed. Some <People> still expect Boscawen with his Fleet at Halifax. I think if the French Succours do not arrive, we have great Room to hope for Success. I wish it may be your Fate and am with great sincerity Dear S^r

Your most obd^t hble Servant,

GW BANYAR

The Company at Westchester are ordered to Albany, tho not complete by about five. The Dutches Company wanted only thirty. In a Week all the Forces will join you, or in a very few days more. (Pray give my Compliments to Capt^s Wraxal & Ayres & tell the former I gave M^r Watkins a Lycence yesterday to make him happy with M^s. Lydia. I suppose M^r. Wraxall accompanys you, I wish I could have that pleasure, I really do without a Joke) The Assembly will bear their Proportion of any thing the Massachusets give you either as Pay or towards your Expences.

<To GENERAL JOHNSON>

INDORSED BY WRAXALL <June> 24, 1755

Banyars letter.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

New York the 24th June 1755

SIR

I this moment received yours of the 19th: Carriages for the small pieces are *absolutely* to be made at Albany, and are not providing here. You dont mention what size the four Iron Guns Captain Eyre has pitched upon at Albany, are of. If they are six pounders, you must have more Ball of that weight sent you. We have sixty at least Batoes to spare, which I believe may be Sufficient for the Train, however I will Collect on a sheet of Paper to be laid before Governor Shirley, all I can think of, as I really have the service as much at heart as any one can. When I see the Governor I will endeavour to get you an order for the Mortar at Albany and fifty or as many Shells as you think wanting for it.

I have since got the Order and inclose it. I have seen your List: the Governor does not incline to augment the number of Shott, thinking they will be both troublesome and unnecessary & alledging that 200 Rounds are in your Estimate. As to the 18 flrs you will have 1200 exclusive of those at Saraghtoga, which you may I suppose take with you if you think proper: Nails will be added to the List: As to the Musket Ball for the Field Pieces the Gov^r thinks them unnecessary, ill endeavour that some be sent and Fusees for the hand Granades, if we know how to make them here — 200 fl more Bar Iron will be added — the Article of Smiths must be settled with M^r Shirley & Powder too — Both which I trust will be provided — I hope youl take care that at least 3700 Men be left for Crown <Point> and that even none be sent to Niagara (if <you> can prevent it) unless you see proof of the Consent of all the Governments concerned. Governor Shirley appears to every one here to be much engrossed with his own Command to favour yours — which is a very good Reason for those who are more

nearly concerned in the latter, to throw in their Weight to balance the Scale. I shall have the Pleasure of drinking your Health & Success at the Major's Feast by and by & am with my best Wishes Dr Sr.

your most obed^t hble Serv^t

GW BANYAR

To:

GENERAL JOHNSON.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: June 24th 1755

Banyars letter

TO COLDEN AND KELLY

*A. Df.*¹

June 24th. 1755

GENTLEMEN

Since my last, I have got up the Guns You Sent me, which will not Answer at all, instead of being light Indian guns as I wrote for, I find they are Old Muskets vamped up anew. So large & wide a Bore the Indians never Use, neither would they Carry them if they were to be paid never so much for It. So I return them to You, in order to change them for light guns, if You can, if not I dont want them. I hope you have rec^d. the Money from Mr. Oliver Delancy. please to let me know how our Acctts Stand now, that I may Settle before I go. I hope You have Sent me the Corn &c wh. I wrote for Some time ago. I shall want the Severall Articles in the inclosed Memorandum, as Soon as possible, if You can provide them for me in time before I March, please to Send them up carefully packed, & marked with my Name on all the Cases &ca.

Inclosed I send you a Packet for Gener^l. Braddock, wh. I beg the favour of You to forward to Mr. Franklin  Express, if the Post should not be there ready to go at the time this comes

¹ Original manuscript in New York Public Library.

to your hand as it requires all dispatch. [*Just*] this minute rec^d. Yours of the 18th. of June, by w^h I find You have sent a Sample of another Kind of gun, and some small Articles, as Soon as I can get done wth. y^e. Indians, and go to Albany will look at y^e. gun You Sent, if it will Suit the Indians, I shall, I believe want a good many of them. pray Send up the Corn as Soon as possible, also my Tents &ca. I have above 12 Hundred Indians ab^t. me these nine days past, they are of Nine Nations, besides a Cheif Sachim Sent as a delegate from the Mississageys to treat with me. I shall know in a Couple of Days what part they will act. I have great hopes their result Will be favourable.

I am Y^{rs}. &ca

To MESS^{RS}. COLDEN & KELLY

JAMES DE LANCEY TO HUBERT MARSHALL

L. S.

New York the 24 J[une 1755]

SIR

You are to deliver to Major General Johnson or his order, the Brass Mortar at Albany, with fifty or as many Shells there, as he may think proper to order for the Mortar. I am Sir

Your humble Servant

JAMES DE LANCEY

CAPT. HUBERT MARSHALL

INDORSED BY JOHNSON:

24 June 1755

Order

[for] Mortar & Shells.

FROM WILLIAM EYRE

A. L. S.

S^R<Albany, 24th June 1755.

This Day I am favour^d with yours of y^e 23^d & have > communicated your Will in regard of <the Indians to Capt.> Marshall & M^r Mathews, as also <to the officers> belonging to the New England forces here.

I have employed Carpenters to make carriages <for> the Brass 4 p^ds. and tomorrow I am to be told when they are to be finished, w^{ch}. I believe will be in 12 or 14 Days. There are 2 of the Brass 6 p^ds. whose touch-<holes> are so large that I think them next to useless on that Acct., for which reason I have agreed with a Smith to bush them for 12 shillings.

There are two Companies of the Connect<icut> Troops encamped close to M^r Dow's House, where I have Marked Ground for the Two Regiments belonging to that province, and I propose to fix the Rhode Island Men just by Col. Rans<lers> House, and I hope to find as much ground below M^r. Dows as will serve the rest of the New England Troops. This afternoon I shall go over and Pitch their Tents once more, in order to make them acquainted with that sort of work; & I shall inform the officers Commanding Companies to send you returns of their Companies in y^e. manner you desire. if it should <not be possible> to find ground on the east side of the River <for all the Troops> would you have any objection <to have the remainder encamped> a little below <the ferry house on y^e Pasture opposite to Col. Ransler's, or above the Town, in a large field belonging to M^{rs} Ransler? for its impossible to fix them together behind the fort, the ground is so hilly & broken, except they are placed by Companies.

I think your Motive for not encamping them> up the River is very Just, <and no doubt> but it would leave our <designs obvious to> those the French may or do send to <inspect> into them. You may be assured that <my endeavours> shall not be wanting, and I now beg leave to inform <you> that you

may employ me in any shape that you may Judge necessary for the Service, for I do not <think it> consistent with my zeal, only to act upon this occasion as an Engineer.

I am very truly Sr. yr. most Ob^t. hum^l Serv^t

WILL: EYRE

P: S:

Col: Lydius family Joins me with their best Comp^t. to yr. fire Side.

ADDRESSED: To Major Gen^l. Johnson at Mount Johnson

VOTE OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MASSACHUSETTS¹

Province of the Mass'tts: Bay

In the House of Representatives June 24th. <1755.>

Voted That the Sum of one hundred & fifty <five> pounds, eleven shill^{gs} one penny part of the Sum of <£600> Order'd by this Court the 7th. Current to be paid to the Order of Col: Johnson, to be apply^d by him for engaging the Indians of the six Nations & supporting them & their Families during the Continuance of the Expedition to Crown point, be applied to discharge this Province's part of £800 Sterling Advanc'd by General Braddock to Col. Johnson for engaging the s^d Indians in the British Interest.

Sent up for Concurrence, T. Hubbard, Spk^r
In Council June 25th. 1755 Read & Concurr'd

Tho^s Clarke, Dp^{ty} Secry

Consented to W. Shirley

Copy Examined

⌘ THO^s. CLARKE Dp^{ty}. Secry

INDORSED: Copy of Vote £155...11...1 transferr'd
from the £600 for defraying
the Charges of subsisting
the Indians of the six
Nations to the £800 advanc'd
by General Braddock.

¹Copy attested by Thomas Clarke, deputy secretary.

FROM WILLIAM EYRE

A. L. S.

[Albany, 26th June 1755]

[¹]
 [] two [hund]red [by] []
 [Troops] arrived this Morning and as soon as []
 [take] their Tents on Shore, I will en[camp] [them] a little
 below Whit-beeks House² abo[ut] [three?] hundred yards
 from Where the Conne[cticut] People are fixd. there are Six
 Companies of the Latter encamped, & the remainder is expected
 next Sunday. I have Pitc[hed] also upon a very good spot for
 the Boston Men Just behind Whitbeek House, Where []
 Place them all in one Line. I hope we have got healthful
 Places, as this [] a thing of great consequence when we
 are li[kely] to be here some time.

I wish your Affairs were Settled, for Y^r. presence here will
 soon be much wanting.

I am S^r. with much EsteemY^r. most Obe^t. Serv^t.

WILL EYRE

P.S.

[] Col. of y^e. Rode Island
 [] teles me he hes write to you
 [] Y^r. orders here.
 Send An Acc^t. thet a Man Just come []
 [¹]

ADDRESSED: To

Gen^l. Johnson

at

Mount Johnson

¹ Lines missing here.² The house of John Witbeck on the east side of the Hudson.

TO WILLIAM EYRE

*Df.*¹*Mount Johnson 26 June 1755*

<SIR

I am so deeply engaged with the Indians & my own Time as well as that of every one about me, must for the present be so much taken up with their > affairs, that I can only thank you <for your fav^r> of the 24 Inst, tell you that I approve of <every step> you have taken. I should have no objection <to Mrs.> Rentzelaers Pasture if it lay on the other side <of> Town, but I think it liable to the Objections in my last Letter. Near Col. Rentzelaers & Mr. Dows is I think Ground suff^t. for all the Troops & the Public Service must take place of private Inconveniences, being parted from the Town by the River is a Matter of great Utility. however if necessity requires it, I must consent that some of them be encampt on this side at the S. West end of the Town, but I am against any being Quartered at the other End.

You will recommend to the officers to keep their Men sober & to employ them in such useful Military Discipline as may keep them Active. For you well know there are no greater Enemies to the Military Welfare, than Intemperance & Idleness.

I am Sir

Your very hum serv^t

To CAPT EYRE at Albany.

INDORSED BY P. WRAXALL: Col. Johnson's letter
to Capt Eyre June
1755

¹ In handwriting of Peter Wraxall.

TO STEPHEN HOPKINS

*Df.*¹

SIR

M^t Johnson 26 June 1755

Last night Major Champlin delivered me Your Honours favour of the 12 Inst.

I felicitate you Sir & your Province on your Promotion to the Chair of Gov^t which I am persuaded you will fill to your own Honour & their Interest.

You may assure your self that I shall use the Command w^{ch} hath been conferred upon me, with the strictest Impartiality & that no preference shall take place with me, but such as my best Judgment will lead me to give to Merit.

The sample of your officers in Major Champlin gives me a favorable Idea of their Characters, and that generous public Spirit w^{ch} your Island has shown at the present interesting Period, places it in my Opinion in a very honourable Light.

I have near 1100 Indians Men Women and Children of 9 different Nations now with me, & a day or two will determine what part they propose to act at this important Conjunction. The public Influence of this Colony has for many years been declining & for some time past of little Consequence. The French have been increasing theirs & have made a wonderful Impression upon most of them, but as I have now by His Majesty's Instructions to General Braddock the sole Management of their Affairs, I hope at least to keep them in general Neutral & to get several of their Warriors to join our Arms against the French & their Indians. had my Appointment been sooner I should have been more Successful.

I am most respectfully Sir

Your Honours Most obd^t hum Serv^t

To The Hon^{ble} STEPH. HOPKINS Esq^r

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: June 25th. 1755

Letter to Gov^r.

Hopkins of Rhode

Island

¹ In handwriting of Peter Wraxall.

VOTE OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MASSACHUSETTS¹

<At a Great and General Court or Assembly for his Majesty's Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England> begun and held at Boston upon <Wednesday the> 28 May 1755, being Convened by his Majesty's <writts.>

In the House of Represent^{ves} June 26. 1755

Resolved that his Excellency the Captain General be desired to Commission proper officers for raising by Enlistment not exceeding five hundred Men to march to Crown point to Reinforce the Army destined there, if upon advice from the Army had in the Recess of this Court, it shall be adjudged by the Commander in chief for the time being with the advice of the Council that it be necessary the Army should be so Reinforced.

That each man be paid a dollar upon his Enlistment, and in case of their being actually engaged in the service, that they be allowed the same bounty including the Dollar mentioned pay and subsistence as the Forces already destined there have. They finding their own good and Sufficient Fire Arms.

The Pay and Subsistence to Commence from the time of their Marching and that they be discharged as soon as the place is Reduced or the nature of the case will admit off or not exceeding the time the other Forces are enlisted for.

That the Enlisting officer be allowed half a Dollar for each man so enlisted, and that his Excellency the Governor be desired to inform the other Governments <of this Resolve.>

Sent up for Concurrence

T^r Hubbard Spk^r

In Council June 26th: 1755 Read & Concurred

J. Willard Secry

Consented to W. Shirley

Copy Examined & THO^s CLARKE Dp^{ty} Secry

INDORSED BY P. WRAXALL: 28 May <1755>

Vote of the <General>

Assembly to <reinforce>

Crown Point <forces.>

¹ Copy attested by Thomas Clarke, deputy secretary.

LIST OF MASSACHUSETTS STORES

D. S.

<Acco't, of sundrys shipt on board sloop Stamford, William Wimble, Master, for Albany consign'd Moses Emerson

Viz't:

June 26 To 1. B Inch Mortar with its Bed
 500.> 32 Pound Shott
 10. Powder Horns & 10 Priming Wires
 10 Lint Stocks arm'd wth Match
 1. Gunner's Gin (fall wanting)
 100. fusees for 13 Inch Bomb Compleat
 100 fusees not fill'd
 1. Copper Funnell for filling 13 Inch Bombs
 2. Drivers for Fusees
 2. p^r. Hooks & Slings for Housing in & out the
 Shells
 New fall for the Gunners Gin
 9. Bell Tents & 9 Poles for Securing the Arms
 50. Spore Ax helves & 6. Adize Helves, & 10
 Spade Handles
 1. p^r. Bellows
 50 Small Arms in a Chest for our forces by Way
 of Reserve;
 1. p^r. Bellows & Carriage for the Smiths forge
 2.0.0 Oakum
 37. Spades
 1. Cask Matches &c
 6. Whip Saws
 25 ff Bullets
 20 Drums & 40 Sticks
 10. Small Arms for Field Officers
 4. Dozⁿ Horn Lanthorns
 1. Dozⁿ Muscova Ditto
 3. Colours for each Regim^t

500 Worms

500 Wires

200 Cartouch Boxes

1. Bellows Nose

8. Teirces Wadding for 18, 32, 12, & 6.
Pounders

80. bbls Cannon Powder

42½ bbs Pistol Ditto.

MOSES EMERSON

TO EDWARD BRADDOCK

*Df.*¹

<Mount Johnson, 27 June 1755.

SIR

I am impatient for the return of Mr. Butler & his Party from Your Excellency that I may learn your > Welfare & Sittuation. I hope a Day or two <more will> bring me the Satisfaction I long for.

The chief Errand here of is to convey the inclosed Intelligence. The first is the Information of one Hart² a man who fled about 18 Months ago <from> Pensilvania for the Murder of some Civil officer <there> & hath since resided in Canada, he is now in Albany & was examined there by Col. Lydius & Cap^t. Eyre & drew up & signed the Account he gave them a Copy of w^{ch} Your Excellency will find herewith. What he says I believe may be depended on as it coincides with reports w^{ch} I have had from various hands; and it is further strengthened by the Information of Two Indians whom I sent sometime ago to Cadaraque for Intelligence, the Information I received from them I also inclose you a Copy of. A Messasaga Sachem & Warrior who is now

¹ In handwriting of P. Wraxall.

² Information of John Hart is printed, *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:666-67; Q, 2:388-89.

with me & is chief of a Castle of that Nation w^{ch} is on the North side of Lake Ontario, tells me the French had applied to him & his Castle to take up the Hatchet against the English & go with them to Ohio, but they had refused & he is now come down to hear what I have to say to the Six Nations & to govern himself by their Resolutions. He tells me that great Numbers of the Uttowawa Nation have joined the French & are gone with them to Ohio. From all these Accounts & from a variety of other Circumstances I believe the French will be very numerous & well prepared at the Ohio, & are determined to dispute their Encroachments in those parts with Spirit & Force. I suppose Your Excellency has more particular accounts of the Enemy than the Intelligence I now send you, <but as> these may corroborate Those, I thought I ought <not to defer sending you any Intelligence in my power w^{ch} might contribute to regulate Your Excellencys Motions; I most fervently hope & I doubt not they> will be such as may <prevent our Enemies from> succeeding in the point they have so much <at Heart.> May you overcome every natural obstacle in your way, & triumph over either the secret or open attacks of our Enemies, who I fear are at present superior in their Numbers.

I have now with me Nine Nations of Indians besides the Delegate from the Messasaga Castle. Men, women & Children they amount to upwards of 1100 — of w^{ch} there are more Men than were ever known to have come down to any former Meeting. I did not flatter myself that near so many would have come, so that I am put to great Difficulties for their Maintenance w^{ch} amounts to a great Expence every day, Numbers of them came a Horse back & as they must not at this critical time be controlled, they have spoiled my Meadows & destroy every Green thing about my Estate. If they turn out good, I will not repine. I opened our Conferences with an Introductory Speech relative to my Appointment & other previous Ceremonies, to which I received a very respectful & Affectionate Answer.

I then delivered them a long Speech of my own to prepare

them for Yours; the next Day I delivered them your Excellency Speech, and threw down your War Belt to them, when it was taken up, One of my Interpreters danced the War Dance, to w^{ch} they bore the usual Chorus. This was two days ago, they have ever since been holding their National Councils. <Last night they sent me a Deputation of their greatest Sachems with a very Civil Apology that they had not yet given me their> Answer. They said the matters I had <laid before> them were of the last importance <to them> & I must permit them to Deliberate Maturely before they acquainted me with their final Detirmination — I hope by tomorrow afternoon at furthest I shall receive their Answer, and tho it may not be equal to our utmost Wishes, it will I believe be more than I expected. The public Influence of this Colony over them, was almost expired — The French on most of their Nations had gained even an Authority, the French had artfully worked up a Jealousy in the upper Nations against the Mohocks who for the most part remained firm Friends to the English, and I have reason to believe had not this Meeting taken place 5 of the 6 Nations would in a little time have gone over to the French. Their Sachems & leading Men I have talked to seperately in private, & by Arguments, by Promises & by Presents, I think I have given a deep Wound to the French Interest — from early in the Morning to 12 oClock at night & sometimes later, I have been in this way employed & I am at present very much out of order by it. however if I carry my point I will not repent & no fatigue shall dishearten me. Your Excellency will excuse this Detail, it will serve as a Preface to the Transactions which my next will bring you, The Secr^y cannot possibly get them ready to go herewith neither are they yet com<pleat.> I hope in a few days to dispatch a number of Indians with a proper officer to receive your Commands.

I have been spurring up the several Gov^{ts}. to forward their Levies & the necessaries for the Crown <Point Expedition. Several Companies within these few days are arrived at Albany. The Artillery w^{ch} has been too much neglected is now getting>

ready. The Quotas of Men are all compleat <as the> Gov^r write me except this Province They have hired 300 Men from Connecticut, three hundred more are raised by officers in this County, but the other Two Companies I hear nothing of. The several Quotas of Expence are not yet settled, and I much fear this Point will yet cause some Provincial Debates. Delay is my Dread & those Indians who engaged to go with me will lay a dead Expence till we proceed upon Action. All this & much more I have repeatedly warned the Gov^{ts}. of & pressed them to Unanimity, Spirit & Dispatch by every argument in my power. Gov^r. Shirley has applied for & the Massachusetts Gov^t have granted him Liberty to take 500 more with him out of their Quota for the Crown Point Expedition, so that with the Jersey Troops, there will be 1000 Men taken from my Command w^{ch} I think ought by no means to be diminished. Crown Point is known to be the strongest Fortification of all the French Encroachments, & that they can in 6 days send all the power in Canada to its relief. However tho not pleased, I will do my Duty & serve my Country to the utmost of my abilities.

Gov^r. Shirley likewise presses me to engage a great Number of Indians to go with him, & has given a Colonels Commission to a Person to command them [*Whom I do not think a Person the most acceptable to them*¹] tho I have already engaged Gentlemen whom I think the properest Persons to be Indian officers

Capt Eyre has been with me, I am very <much> obliged to y^r Ex^y. for sending him as I believe <he will> be of great Service, he is full of Zeal & activity <& is now at Albany in his Department.> Please Sir to accept of my most ardent wishes for y^r success, Health & Glory & <believe me to be> Your Excellency's,

<To GENERAL BRADDOCK>

¹ Words in italics and within brackets are erased in original manuscript.

FROM WILLIAM EYRE

A. L. S.

<Albany 27th June 1755.S^r

Your favour of the 26th came to Hand. I have encamped the two > Rode Island Companies in the Place <I mentioned in my> last, and I am pretty sure I shall be able <to find as much> ground near Where the Boston Troops are to <be Placed as> will hold the New York forces when they are ready to <encamp. Capt.> Skyler tells me their Cloathing is arrived. I think the sooner they are fix^d the better, for they appear to me to require to be put in some kind of order. I mean those Companies of Mathews & Skyler. I expect this Day, or tomorrow, the remainder of the Connecticut Forces, and shall acquaint those already here, as well as y^e. Rode Island People, y^r. <desire> of their loosing no time in deciplining their Troops, which undoub<tedly> will not only keep them healthy, but contribute to make them conversant with what is necessary to be known. And in order that the Troops may be acquainted with the D<uties> of Camp decipline, I am humbly of opinion that each Regiment or Body should do the Common Regimental Duties such as Quarter & rear Guards &c as also that which must be done by detachm^{ts} those different duties will be easily learned if an officer is apointed to act as Adjutant for each Reg^t., who will keep an Acc^t of the detail of Duties, as also to carry the orders from y^e Commander in chief to their respective Corps. As far as I can learn Col. Cole who now commands the 200 Rode Island Troops is at a loss whether he ought to take upon him the Command of the whole, as there is no field officer arrived yet <belonging> to the Connecticut People. I apprehend the Hurry & <Noise you are> now surrounded with, will hinder you from <settlng these matters. However, till you are more at leisure, if you please to favor me with y^r Commands, I will do my endeavour to follow them. Mr Dow & Mr Whitbeck, whose

Land the Army is & will all be encamped upon, Seem pretty well satisfied, and in order to prevent any Damage to their Fences, I have recommended > to the neighbourhood there abouts <to Supply> the Camp with Timber to boil the <Soldiers Kettles> which will totally prevent that Inconveniency; & they Seem to be very well pleased with the Scheme, upon this Condition that the Soldiers will cut down <the Timber.>

I am this Moment inform'd the Commander of the <New> York forces is arrived, & I believe will write to you.

I am Sr very truly Yr Most Obed^t. Serv^t.

WILL: EYRE

P. S. You will please to excuse the Hurry I am always obliged to write in, on Acc^t. of having no opportunities but when an Express is going to you, w^{ch} I am unwilling to keep waiting.

Please to present my best Comp^s to y^r family

<To MAJOR GEN^L JOHNSON.>

TO JAMES DE LANCEY

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 38 by one of June 27th from Johnson to James De Lancey on Governor Glen's letter to the Six Nations, the Indian conference, reinforcement for Shirley, gun carriages, bateaux and John Hart's testimony (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:665-67; Q. 2:388-89). Not destroyed in the fire.

GENERAL ORDERS

*Df.*¹

Mount Johnson June 28th 1755

<That a Captains Command be every day detached to reconnoitre for 2 or 3 miles> round the Encampment. Each regiment <to send a> proportionable Number of Men & officers;

¹ In handwriting of P. Wraxall.

the Sen<ior Captain> of the Eldest Regiment to go first upon Duty.

That a Captains Guard mount for each Reg^t <and that> the centinals be posted so as not only to prevent any suprise from the Enemy, but to preserve Peace & good order amongst the Soldiers & to let none pass over the River without orders from the officer of the Guard.

That the Men of each Reg^t. ever day go thro such parts of the Exercise as the Commanding officer shall judge most useful upon their respective Regimental Parades. That the Men be used to know & obey, the Beat to Arms, the March & the Retreat.

That no Rum be upon any Acc^t suffered to be brought into the Camp or sold to the Men, that whatever shall be discovered be immediately staved & the offenders punished by a Court Martial.

That no soldiers be allowed to go into the Town of Albany or over the River but upon necessary occasions & then as few as possible & an officer always with them who is to take care that they make no disturbances or Insult or give any ill usage to any Indians who may be in the Said Town.

That the Soldiers of each Company be divided into Messes, & that great care be taken & that they soak their Salt Meat in Water before they dress it & not roast it without any freshening. [*as the New England people are apt to do.*¹]

ON VERSO: Mount Johnson June 28th 1755.

By the Honourable Major General William Johnson Esq^r.
Commander in Chief of the Forces raised for an Expedition to
Crown Point &c.

General Orders

¹ Words in italics and within brackets erased in original manuscript.

TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL ELLISON

*Df.*¹*Mount Johnson <30 June> 1755*

SIR

I am surrounded by upwards of 1000 Indians, <Men,> Women, & Children, and tho I am extreemly impatient <to> be at Albany in order to look after & forward <the affairs of my> own Command yet it is impossible for me <to quit> this place untill I have finished those Affairs with the Indians which at present require my uninterrupted Attention. I hope in a few days so to settle Matters wth them as to be able to leave this place.

Yesterday the Indians of the 9 Nations here present declared, they would join & Assist their Bretheren the English in our present undertakings against the french.

Tho my House is in such a scene of Confusion <&> at present I cannot make it so agreeable to You as I wuld wish, yet if I am able to forward the Service by any Information in my power to give you & Coll^o Schyler, I must beg the favour of Your Companys here when Y<ou> shall receive all the Intelligence I can give.

I must beg you will give strict orders that none <of> y^e Soldiers do molest, Insult or drink wth any of y^e Ind^s who may fall in their way, they are at best a Suspicious People & if in Liquor are generally troublesome.

I am Sir Your Most Humb Serv^t

To LIEU^T COLONEL ELLISON

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Letter to Lieu^t. Coll^o. Ellison.

¹See Shirley to Johnson, July 17, 1755.

FROM WILLIAM EYRE

A. L. S.

<Albany, 30th. June 1755S^r

I have been > favour^d with your's <of the 28th and an> other a little before. The Battoes I <have put into Hands> tho not without some difficulty, the Work <men thinking their> Pay not well secured, however I have put them in Motion & assured them they should immediately get <further> Satisfaction, which I beg you Will contrive, as it will induce them to go on with more chearfulness.

Y^r Brass Cannon was left here yesterday. I shall order a Carriage to be made for it.

The Orders you inclosed to me I gave to L^t Col. Cole, who afterward carried them to Col. Cockroft.

Mr. Pitcher the Commissary came here the Day before yesterday, and brought me a Message <from> Governor Delancey, to give directions about the making of the Six 18 p^{dr} Carriages at this Place, but he tells me, he said nothing to him about the Carriages for the two 32 p^{dr}. & the 12 p^{drs}. for which reason I sent off a Letter with Your Packet to New Y<ork> to Mr Bannyer, to know if them Carriages were done or doing, for I am afraid they are forgot. I wish if you have no assurance of their being in Hands to send about them. I also told him how absolutely Necessary I thought the proving of the Guns were, so begged he would do his endeavour w^{ch}. you know he will <not fail> to do.

Major Gen^l Limon¹ is to be here this Day. <The Boston

¹ Phineas Lyman was born in Durham, Conn., in 1716. A graduate of Yale, a tutor in that college, a lawyer, a member of the legislature, he had attained prominence among New England men when he was made a major general, second to General Johnson in the Crown Point expedition. The fort which he built on the Hudson was known as Fort Lyman until its name was changed to Fort Edward. In the Battle of Lake George

Forces are > dropping in, & their Tents are not < yet come. I find it not an easy Matter to procure Places for them.

The Battoes that the Connecticut Troops have brought > with them is so small < that they themselves as well > as every one who has Saw them, < say, they will > not do, nor is there near enough such as < they are if I am in > form'd right. This I am apprehensive < will be > a new Matter of delay.

I am Sr very truly

Yr Most Obedt. Servt.

WILL: EYRE

ADDRESSED: To Major General Johnson
at Mount Johnson

FROM PETER WRAXALL

A. L. S.

[Albany, June¹ 1755]

DEAR SIR

About 11 oClock Fryday Morning I received Your favour of the 23 past. I had taken my passage for Albany, & had most of my baggage on board Van Antwerp, he had hauled into the North River & just sent me word the Wind was fair & he should sail at one oClock. had I received yr Letter 2 or 3 hours sooner, I would not have despaired executing in some measure most of your Commands — but thus circumstanced what could I do. Well, now my Prologue is over, w^{ch} by the by is only to give my self Consequence with you, a Point I am extreamly &

he took command after the wounding of Johnson. In 1758 he engaged, at the head of a Connecticut force, in the disastrous attack on Ticonderoga; and the following year assisted General Amherst in taking possession of that place and Crown Point. After the fall of Canada he took part in the Havana expedition. The war concluded, Lyman devoted himself to a colonizing adventure on the Mississippi river; and died near Natchez, Miss., in 1774.

¹ Date uncertain.

disinterestedly ambitious of, I will tell you what I did. I immediately carried your Letter to Mr Watts, he was fortunately at home — he recd it, said you should have what money he had, but feared Byard could raise but little, he had no Cash & many Demands on him. Sr J Sinclair¹ had just sent his Clerk down for 6000 pound &c. &c. I told Mr Watts we must get all we could within 2 hours, he said I must stay till three oClock. I told him I would find out the Schipper & try to keep him an hour or two. I found him, put on an important Face & said he must stay till 3 oClock, he said Wind & Tide were now fair, however I brot him to agree to stay till half an hour after 2. when he said he would go if I was not ready, I told him to call on me at Mr Watts where I dined & he should find me ready. This point settled, I proceeded to the other Matters. Billy Beyard had parted with the Furniture. I set off to find Wallace — he was at home but knew not where to get pocket Pistols however s^d. would inquire every where. when I was parting with him, Young De Peyster the Treasurers² son was on his Sloop. I told him I wanted a pair of pocket Pistols, did he know where I woud get any — he said he had a pair if they would do — he showed 'em me a pair of French make, not Screw Barrels & too large — he said he had another pair but could not part with 'em having sent for 'em from Lond^o for his own use I begged to see 'em, he brought 'em out, they were exactly what you want & a fine pair — I begged him to spare 'em for you — he s^d he could not — while we were talking his Father came in, I desired him to be my Advocate & coaxed 'em both — he agreed to let me have 'em at prime cost, showed the Invoice £3 Sterg. I took them gladly Wallace s^d he would pay for 'em — so this matter was settled.

I then went to the Fort to take Sr Charles's Commands & read him Paragraph of your Letter abt Presents. what passed I will tell you by word of Mouth.

¹ Sir John St Clair, British quartermaster general.

² Abraham De Peyster, jr was colonial treasurer from 1721 to 1767.

Saddle & Furniture Wallace said he thought you might get of some of the officers at Albany — however I took some measures about this matter also w^{ch}. I will defer to the pleasure of seeing you.

I returned to Mr Watts & told him I would draw my self on Lond^o. to raise some money, he said there were so many Bills in Town to sell & no Buyers that it would not do. I went to Beverly Robinson who owed me £100 — to get it — he said he had not £50 in the house had large Orders on Beyard but could get no money — but to come to the point Mr. Watts & I pressed Mr. Beyard & they together made up £2000 in pieces of 8. Gold & paper w^{ch}. I have got with me & shall wait your orders for bringing it up the Silver is in a small Case 1500 Dollars — I dont care to proceed with this Money till I receive your Directions.

Major Kinneer who I expect setts off this Day & as the Wind is fair will probably be up Tuesday is to bring some more money at least Mr. Watts said he would endeavour to send some by him — if you cant come yourself to Albany some Disposition may be made to bring all up together on order for me to receive it. Wont it be best to come y^r self. Sr. Charles wont let you have any of the presents, no not lend you nor sell you any.

I wrote the foregoing in sight of the Town aboard — this Moment I heard Mr. Hawley is just setting off — No Packet yet arrived inclosed Letters & Newspaper, I am truly D^r Sir y^{rs}.

P WRAXALL

I shall wait to hear from you

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

New York 1st July 1755

DEAR SIR

I have waited sometime in hopes to be able to give you a full account of what the Assembly might have done touching the

Expedition, but as they still look for Mr. Shirley before they will come to a final Resolution as to their own quota of the necessary Expences, I shall in the meantime write what occurs to me.

You have already from me a List of the Stores providing here which will be all ship'd to morrow, or the next day at the furthest. I hope the 8 small Carriages for the Field Pieces may be in great forwardness, if not finished, by the time this is put into your hands, and that the Batoes for the Cannon will be soon finished likewise. Believe me I have been in great Pain least what is to be furnished here should not be ready time enough. The Proposal for the Pay of the artillery officers which I inclose, I wonder was not sent till the 28 by the Post. It should have been settled long ago. I am told there are many Sailors among the Rhode Islanders, who I think may be best qualifed for the management of the artillery. Our Government will propose to Mr. Shirley to draw for the Quotas of those Governments concerned, who are deficient in the Provision they make. If Mr. Shirley agrees to this, many obstacles in your Way will be removed. Otherwise we shall at best make a bungling piece of Work of it. I comfort myself with this Reflection, that you will Do the best under whatever difficulties you may go on this Service And that they will not be so great as to prevent your Success which I think with most people, will depend on the Arrival or not of the French Succours: and this was the principal Reason, why the least delay should have been avoided. It is true if they had an account the truth of which they depended on, they might by the present delay have strengthened the Fort and Garison greatly. You've not mentioned a word of the Situation of the French at Crown Point. The publick Papers give you all the News we have, except some Reports which I do not believe & therefore shall not trouble you with them.

The Patent for the People of the German Flatts for 34,000¹ the Gov^r. was desirous of having finish'd while he had the Seal,

¹ *Calendar of Land Papers*, p. 285, 287-88.

they had left no Money in my Hands & Mr. Colden would not sign the Certificate unless his Fees were secured to him. The Governor would not do this, thinking it would not look well. I declined it for the same Reason, altho concerned as to 2000 acres, and if Mr. Dies had not voluntarily offered & given his Note for £155 to Mr. Colden, the patent, which is now sealed, could not have been finished, he undertook too to pay Mr. Atty General his Fees £51: 0.0. If any of the Persons named in the Patent sho'd decline their Interest or there should be more than they want, I should be glad Mr Dies for this piece of Service, might have 2000 acres or whatever less quantity they may leave on paying his proportion of charges, and to this purpose I write to Mr. Herchheimer & desire him to collect and send down the Money to pay all the officers.

It is now 9 oClock, & to send this by a Sloop just a going, I inclose this at Mr. Dies's with only Parker's¹ <Paper>. I send you my Boston Paper: Gaine² I believe has nothing more. I shall write again to Morrow or next day at farthest & send you a Copy of the Massachusets and our Assembly's Resolve as to the employing a part of the Forces on the Expedⁿ: to Niagara: Perhaps you may not have the former, which is too material not to be lodged with you. I am Dear Sir with my hearty good wishes your most obed^t hble Servant

GW BANYAR

GENERAL JOHNSON

INDORSED BY P. WRAXALL: Mr. Banyars Letter 1 July
1755. Rec^d. 11 d^o
Ans^d.

¹ James Parker, publisher of the *New York Gazette and Weekly Post-boy*.

² Hugh Gaine, publisher of the *New York Gazette and Weekly Mercury*.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

New York 4 July 1755 Friday Morn^g

DEAR SIR

To my Letter of the 2^d.¹ I think it is I can only add now what perhaps you will have heard before this comes to hand. Wednesday Evening Gov Shirley arrived here, & brought us the agreeable News of the French Fort Beau Sejour & another² being taken. Gen^l. Winslow is detached to a small Fort³ or two, which it is expected will surrender immediately on his appearance. We lost three Men, some wounded — the Bomb Batt^y was the only work they raised, & with the Shells they kill'd many of their officers. The garrison of regulars 150 were to go to Cape Breton, the Neutrals 350 are to be answerable upon our Enquiry into their breach of Faith &c and whether their Lands are to be returned to them will depend upon Col. Lawrence.⁴ The other piece of News is that our Fleet had fallen in with 5 french Ships of war off the Banks and had taken 3 of them & were left in chase of the other two. Mr. Shirley believes it; & I think there is some probability in the Account, as the two Fleets were certainly near each other. Nothing is said of the Transports. Whatever is deficient in the Provision made for the Indians on this Expedition I understand you are to draw on Gov^r. Shirley for: and there will be a Bank for you to draw out off for Transportation of the Stores &c this Matter is not yet so fully settled as that I understand it well enough myself to give you a good Account of. 400 Bbls of Powder is all you are like to get: The Stores are all Shipt that were to go from hence except the Grape Shot

¹ Probably his letter of the 1st.

² At Pont-à-Buot (Pont du Buott), Acadia. See *Minutes of the Provincial Council of Pennsylvania*, 6:447.

³ Gaspereau at Baye Verte, on the eastern shore of the isthmus.

⁴ Men who had abandoned British Acadia and placed themselves under French authority. See Parkman, *Montcalm and Wolfe*, 1:263–65.

which are in hand. I am wishing to hear your Success with the Indians, which if the Reports are to be credited has been very favourable. You will be moving I hope in 10 or 12 days. I am Dr Sr.

Your very humble & obed^t Serv^t

GW BANYAR

I believe these two letters will go with Dr Middleton in whose Conduct I dare say you'll find great Satisfaction.

INDORSED BY P. WRAXALL: Mr Banyars Letter N. York
4 July Rec^d 11 D^o 1755 Ans^d

REASONS AGAINST REDUCING THE FORCES

Hints upon drawing off 500 men from the troops destined for Crown Point ¹

1.

The Votes of the Legislature of Massachusetts ² for this measure are under the three following Restrictions

1. the Concurrence of the other Gov^{ts}. concerned.
2. that they be Volunteers.
3. that y^e Crown Point Troops be not diminished under 3700.

have R. Isld. New
Hampshire &
Connecticut con-
curred?

The Vote of the Assembly of New York ³ confirm the 3 afore-said Conditions & add a 4th. viz that Gen: Johnson has no Exception to this Measure.

It is hereupon observed that y^e Crown Point Troops rendezvoused near Albany are far short of 3700 Men and the others

¹ In the handwriting of Peter Wraxall.

² A resolve of May 31, q. v., inclosed in Banyar to Johnson, July 5, 1755.

³ A resolve of June 17, inclosed in Banyar to Johnson, July 4, 1755.
Journal of the General-Assembly of the Colony of New York, 2:448.

are said to be on their way here, till they do arrive the 3^d. Condition stands against any diminution.

2.

In the general Review already made numbers appeared to be unfit for the Service & when a Review is made by Companys of those now here, & the others who are expected, tis not to be doubted but many will be discharged as unfit for the Service.

N. B. the N. Hampshire Troops by the route they have taken cannot be reviewed here & tho 500 were voted to be raised, yet it may be supposed when joined by the main Body they will be many short of that number.

3.

Allowances must be made for Desertion, sickness, & Deaths in the present Numbers before they arrive at their Grand rendezvous at y^e carrying Place.

4.

It is judged that the methods w^{ch}. may be taken in the Scheme of drawing off Volunteers from the Forces originally enlisted upon one Expedition to go upon another will create an uneasiness among the remaining Troops w^{ch} may be of ill consequence, and that it will tend to abate that Ardor & Confidence with w^{ch}. these troops are at present animated.

5.

It is judged that several of the French Fleet have escaped from the attack of the English landed their men in the River St. Laurence & hurried them up to Canada, w^{ch}. Troops will be in time to march to the Reinforcement & relief of Crown Point & cannot to that of Niagara &c. Therefore an addition rather than any Diminution of the Crown Point Forces is necessary.

6.

Since the Defeat of the French at Fort Beausejour &c. tis highly probable their troops posted at those Places will march back to Canada & be employed against our operations at Crown point w^{ch} is another reason against diminishing the s^d. troops.

7.

It is well known that experienced officers with few Troops are of greater Consequence in military Enterprizes than a superior number of Troops with unexperienced officers. It is certain truth with very few Exceptions that the officers of the Crown Point troops do not claim to themselves much regular Military Experience, whereas most of the officers und^r. Gen Shirley have been regularly [bred?] & many long in the Army.

It is apprehended that from the last & latest Intelligences, the Enemy at Niagara & Cadaraqui are in no condition to resist a much inferior Force & much less formidable Preparations than Gen^l. Shirley already has without any draughts from the Crown Point troops.

9.

That the French from their long possession of Crown Point Fort do consider it as the Key to Canada on this side & it really is so. It must therefore be supposed that they will defend it with their utmost Force that they have before now Intelligence of our Designs that way, that they will therefore be able to reinforce it with Cannon, with Troops, with works &c. cannot be doubted.

10.

The Resolutions of the several Gov^{ts}. to reinforce the Crown Point troops if found necessary, is intended to take place either after the reduction of Crown Point or when the troops may lay before it, & Circumstances may call for additional Forces.

It is reasonable to suppose the Enemy will make formidable Attacks or an Attack before our troops will reach Crown Point. And it is clear from Experience that before these resolutions can be effected & Reinforcements arrive there a great deal of time will elapse, besides the Resolutions of these Assemblys are not designed, as a replacement of the men proposed to be now drawn of & is therefore no just Argument in favour of that Measure.

11.

For these & various other reasons too tedious to mention, It is supposed that General Johnson, General Lyman & the Majority of all the other officers concerned in the Crown Point Expedition, are against any Diminution of their Forces.

12.

It is on the whole therefore presumed that a Measure w^{ch}. seems not to be well supported & w^{ch}. affects so many Lives & the Success of so considerable a part of the present General Plan will not or ought not to take Effect.

FROM JOHN DIES

A. L. S.

[*New York, July 4, 1755*]

[
Schuyler and Depeyster of Albany, who are to [
and Stores Ship^d. with Tenyk and Switts, to your order [
are to Sail this Day, I inclos^d. you have a Copy of the Invoice¹
[] what Ordenance Cariges and Stores, I had orders to
provide for your Train, I have Taken all the Care I could to
have the Cariges Made Strong and to move Easey, I have had
what Cannon we Send from here Mounted on their Propper
Cariges, and had them Caried from the Battrey to the Sloop,
with 2 horses, who Mov^d them with Great Ease; I have made
them with a pole by which the hind horses Can Easily Guide
them, and hope thei^l. answer well, I could find in all this Citty
but 31 Charges of Grape Shott, However, have now persons att
work, Casting and making them up and Shall Send them I hope
In abt. 3 Days, if a Sloop Sails by that Time, I have allso Sent 2
Bouge Barrils and Some other Small artickels not Mentioned
In aney Lists of Trains Sent here as I blive you have Little Time

¹ See invoices from Tobias Ten Eyk and Isaac Swits, July 4, 1755.

to Spare Shant Trouble you now to Inform you that Mr. Banyar has Given Sombody . . . about Getting proper orders, for Several things, Nessasary, for our part of the Train, and as for News, you no doubt have it Convey^d by all oportunity you heard no Doubt of the Bay of Funda being in our Posession¹ and the English Fleets Playing the Divil with the French. am Just now Siezed with a violent fit of the Augue, wich Obliges me to brake Short and take to my bed. Success in your Ondertakin and Getting Posesion of Crown Point in the Harty wish of Sr.

your very Humb^l Sarv^t

JOHN DIES

To GENERALE JOHNSON

INDORSED BY P. WRAXALL: New York
4 July 1755
rec^d 10 d^o.
Ans^d.

INVOICE OF ORDNANCE STORES FROM ISAAC SWITS

D. S.

[July 4, 1755]

[²]
Isaac Swits Master for Albany for the use [of the] Train of the Crown Point Expedition [directed] to the Care of Mess Philip Schuyler & Jn^o. [DePeyster] Esq^r until they are delivered to the order of Major Generall Will^m Johnson

400 Cannon Ball for 32 Pounders

500 D^o. . . . 18

400 D^o. . . . 12 400 6 Pounders

30 Rammer and Spunge Staffs with ramm^r heads

2 Gunners Mallets

¹ Fort Beauséjour in Acadia surrendered to the British June 16th.

² Lines missing.

- 4 Formers Sised
- 3 Spare Rammer heads
- 4 D^o. for Spunges
- 7 Copper Ladles Siz^d
- 3 Cask of Nails. 12^d, 20^d & 24^d
- 1 Smaller d^o Spikes & 30^d nails mixed
- 6 Catridge Boxes
- 21 Crabb Handspakes
- 1 Barrell of Tallow
- 5 hund. weight Iron
- 50 Handles for Pick Axes, 2 Bouge barrles

Rece^d from John Dies on Board of my Sloop¹ the above Stores, the Which I Promise on my Safe arival at Albany to deliver to Mess Philip Schuyler & John de Peyster Esq as Witnes my hand N: York July 4, 1755

ISAAC SWITS

INDORSED: Invoice of stores for artillery
Shipped by John Dies from
New York to De Peister &
Schuyler

INVOICE OF ORDNANCE STORES FROM TOBIAS TEN EYK

D. S.

[July 4, 1755]

[²]

Hon James De Lancey Esq^r [per] the Sloop Christina Tobias Ten Eyck, [Master] for Albany for the use of the Cro[wn Point] Expedition, directed to the Care of [Mess.] Philip Schuyler & John De Peyster [Esq^{rs}.] until they are delivered to the Order of Major General Will^m Johnson

¹Te Schongtade.

²Lines missing.

As Sundry Stores Pack^t up in 2 boxes & 1 Cask Viz

In Box N^o 1

- 1 Tin Powder Measure for 32 Pounds
- 2 D^o. 18
- 1 D^o. 12
- 2 D. 6
- 1 doz Carpenters hammers Sorted
- 10 Powder horns, 10 Priming Wires
- 2 Pair Calloper Brass Compasses
- 1 Pair Brass Scales with Brass & Lead weights Compleat

In Box N^o 2

- 400 Fuses fill^d and prim^d for hand Granades
- 2 Copper Rammers to fill the fuses

In Cask N^o 3.

31 Charges of Grape Shott

Guns and Stores unpackt Viz

- 2 Pieces of Cannon 32 Pounds
- 2 D^o 12
- 1 Gun Ginn with its furniture
- 6 Lint Stocks
- [] Hand Screws
- [
- 20 Leather Buckets
- 100 Pick Axes. 50 handles for D^o.
- 10 Crow Barrs.
- 10 Carriages With Limbers for Large Can[non.]
- 4 Coyls White rope for Ginn falls & Lashing ropes for Mortars.
- 1 Coyl Tard rope
- 1 Sling for the Guns

New York July 4 1755 Rece^d the above Goods & Stores
(The Inside of the Boxes & Cask & their Contents unknown)

on Board my Sloop, the which I Promise on my Safe arival to deliver to Mess Philip Schuyler & Jn de Peyster Esq. at Albany, as witnes my hand

I say Rec^d. them from Jn^o Dies and Ten Batows

TOBYAS C TEN EYK

INDORSED: Invoice of Ordnance
Carriage & Stores Shipped
by John Dies to Schuyler
& De Peyster.

FROM THEODORE ATKINSON

A. L. S.¹

Portsm. New Hamp July 5th 1755

S^R

My friend M^r Blanchard by whom you^l recive this is Colonel of the regiment raised in this Province y^t. under your Comand is to assist in reduceing Montsieur to reason & Justice I Perswade my Self you will be Pleased with his regiment as it Consits Chieffly of men used to the woods & fatigue — I could not contentedly Let M^r Blanchard Leave us without doing my Self the Hon^r to mention him to you as He is a Peculiar friend of mine whose behaviour I will warrantt will be agreable & Convince you he is a good man & True and the more he is known the Less he needs a recomendation that he may assist you in the Important work you have under your Direction till fully compleated & you receive the Hon^{rs} Due for your Service is the Sincere wish of your

Most Devoted & most Oblidged

Humble Sev^t

THEODORE ATKINSON

GEN^{LL} JOHNSON

¹ In New York Public Library, Emmet Collection.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

< New York, 5 July 1755.

DEAR SIR>

Were it possible, I am under equal anxiety with your self, and I am really sorry my <temper> admits of it, for it often exposes me to an uneasiness <that were> I of a more indolent or careless disposition I should be <free from.> however considering the Situation I am in at present, it is absolutely necessary. It is now about 2 in the afternoon, & I have the Bill before me of which I suppose you will find a Copy inclosed, sent you by an Express, which I intend to propose to the Gov^r and if he is unwilling to send it on account of the Expence, which I have no reason to think will be the case, I am determined to send you one on my Account: The Act I shall send is to be passed this afternoon, it only came to the Council this Morning, & is already passed by them. I can only tell you just now, what I *propose* to do. The Act makes a considerable Sum payable to you; About £1400 of which must be kept here to pay for the Stores sent from hence & which you carry with you from Albany. Without great delays, we cannot wait for your Orders whom to pay the Money to here, a great <part> of it, you will want at Albany. Are you to stay till you can send hither for Arms, I think not, & therefore shall propose (as you write by y^r. Letter of the 27th. June which I rece'd an hour ago that light Arms Ammunition Clothing &^{ca} should be there *then* for the Indians) that the Gov^r. immediately order 300 light arms to be sent you, with such other things as I am told (upon the best Information we can obtain) you cannot get at Albany. Ammunition & Provisions I shall propose to the Gov^r. that you be at Liberty to take either from the Common Stores, or that they be sent up too, if not, upon Information, to be purchased at Albany. And what Money it may be judg'd you may want, or may be left remaining, that he would be pleased out of Regard for the Service to prevail

with the Members or Treasurer to pay to somebody here to be sent you <immediately, I mean without delay. Perhaps by the Express. If it cannot be sent otherwise, and I can> possibly go up, <I will bring it myself rather than the> Service shall be injured thro the want of it. I have <amused myself >with telling you what I propose to do. A few <hours hence,> I hope to be able to tell you what I have done. <In the> mean time, as this may possibly be put into your <Hands> before Gov^r. Shirley arrives, we have a certain <Account,> by Express that 2 French Men of War of 64 & 74 Guns, the Alcide & the Lys are taken, one of 'em carryed into H<alifax.> there were on board one of them 8 Comp^s of Soldiers (of <30> Men each only, I presume), the chief Engineer (who was kill'd) and the Military Chest, (I presume only a part of it) The Express who is or was a Lieutenant in the Regular Service says, the French have 24 Ships, large, not one Transport, & therefore their Vessels much incumbered, that we have 32 of the line under Command of Adm^l Boscawen¹ with Admirals Moyston² & Holburne³ That our Fleet were in the midst of the French, but as it is a very Foggy Season, it may be imagined some would Escape. Our Ships were off Cape Breton. Beau Sejour Fort & the other French Forts are taken by the Eastern Forces. War was not declared at home by a Vessell in 5 weeks at Boston. I hope you understand long ago that the 4 Carriages for the 4 brass field Pieces are to be made at Albany, you only mention 4 for the Iron Field Pieces. Mr. Shirley told me his Engineer would direct the making of the 100 Fusees for the Mortar at Albany, but did not doubt Mr. Eyre would have given the directions, if informed they were not to be made here. He was desirous of sending you 100 Blls more of Gun Powder to make up 500 the quantity you desire, but was discouraged from the

¹ Edward Boscawen, vice admiral.

² Savage Mostyn, vice admiral, second in command of fleet under Boscawen.

³ Francis Holburne, rear admiral of the blue, commanding squadron sent to reinforce Boscawen.

Consideration that the Money would not hold out, & not doubting withall that 400 would be sufft. if no accident happen'd to it. He says you will have 200 Blls of Cannon Powder, which will be something more than 200 rounds for the Cannon Even tho half the weight of the Shot be allowed for each <Charge which is more than sufft. as you will find by the Experiments in the book I sent you. there is 200 Blls of Pistol Powder. Let me know if you will have the Telescope on my paying 5 Guineas for it. I shall see it, and if I think it far preferable to the Glass I sent you will> send it at all Events.

I have sent you our Assembly's opinion abt the <500> Men to be taken from you, & now send you the Massachusets & the Reasons.¹ It is a ticklish point, and I hope you'l <be able> to prevail with Mr. Shirley to decline it, especially as the <French> Succours cannot possibly reach Niagara time enough, if they should arrive at all, but may in that Case probably gain Crown Point. Niagara in a general view, or System, is no doubt of very great Importance, but my Skin is Nearer to me than my Coat, and I had rather be subjected to the Inclemency of the Weather than have my Skin stript over my Ears. You perceive I mean, that Crown Point has a much nearer and more immediate relation to their Safety than the former, since it opens the heart of their Country to us, which the other does not. My opinion is, that at all Events you should, after making some allowance for the Troops of each Province not being complete, insist on 3700 exclusive of Indians. Mr. Shirley will endeavour to amuse you with the 500 Men their Government have empowered the Commr. in chief to raise if he thinks it necessary to support the Forces under you.² Our assembly have passed a Vote³ upon it of which I send you a Copy.

¹ See Shirley's reasons, May 31, 1755.

² See Vote of General Assembly of Massachusetts, June 26, 1755.

³ It voted to provide means for supplying the quota of the colony in case the army should need reinforcements. Resolve of July 5, *Journal of the General-Assembly of the Colony of New York*, 2:452 and *Doc. Hist., N. Y.*, 2:669; Q, 2:390.

Thus far I had got when the Governor sent for me. he has pass'd the Bill, of which I send you a Copy. With his Letter to the Treasurer & Capt. Winne's Receipt for £2007 to be delivered to you. The Governor thought it best to send it by Water, and wo'd not send you the remainder about £1300, alledging you cou'd have no immediate Occasion for it: Out of it however I shall get provided 200 *light* Arms, the best that are to be had here of the Sort that suits Indians. I was under some difficulty about these Arms whether they could be got at Albany or not, I am informed not, and your writing that Arms &c should be there, & least the Service might be delayed if you was obliged after the Receipt of this to send hither for them, determined me in the opinion it would be best to send 200 immediately, if they can be got. You may & will probably want 100 more, if they are to be had here good, I shall get the Governors Order for the whole Number. I am told all <other Indian goods you can provide there, if not, you must I believe send for them hither. It appears to me most of the things may be got there: Ammunition you can supply> them with <out of the General Stock. And I shall endeavour> to get some Order from the Governor <to enable you to> take some of the Provisions mentioned in <the last Clause> of the Act, if you should find it necessary, not<withstand>ing there may be no Authority by Act as required, but of this the Governor must write at large, and I hope *will* to remove any difficulty you might otherwise <find> yourself under. The Sum remaining here you can draw for as you want it or immediately as you see <best.> But remember about £1200 (I said before £1400) will be to be paid to Mr. Dies for what he has provided. The whole that he has sent or you take with you is to be paid for by the province (except the Cannon & mortar and Shells) altho part be the Kings Stores such as Ball which are absolutely to be replaced as soon as may be; And therefore the Governor desires you to send an Order to the Treasurer to pay Mr. Dies for the Stores furnished by this Province for the Expedition out of the Monies remaining in the

Treasury to be paid to you. The Amount cannot yet be known, but by virtue of such an Order he can receive as much as he has expended or may from time to time. As you will want Batoes to transport the Train, the Governor says you may take those at Albany or Schenectady, built or bought (for some have been actually bought at Schenectady instead of being hired) at the Expence of this Province But then you must be accountable for the Cash they Cost the Province, it being an Article of General Expence, to which our Government besides giving their own Quota, have advanced £944, as you will see by the Papers I send you & therefore if you take our Batoes, I say as before, that you should leave in the Treasury about the Sum you judge they Cost which with their Furniture is better than £7 for the 60 built here those at Albany were made cheaper. My chief Concern now is least the Massachusetts Committee of Warr may not have provided the Stores they mention in their List. Ours is framed from thence, & if they are not deficient you will I hope have every thing *absolutely* necessary. I cannot repeat the Papers I send you, you will find several besides what I mention. Remember to be very particular by the Return of this Express. I am, Dr Sir Your obliged Friend & very hble Serv^t

GW. B<ANYAR>

Gen^l Braddock was at Bear Camp near the Great Meadows on the 21st Ult^o

<GENERAL> JOHNSON.

<I sent you some time ago, the Massachusetts allowance for the Engineers> officers of the Artillery &^c <If you appoint Mr Eyre will be the principal no doubt.> Our Assembly <had the same> before them but whether they have done anything <in it I cant> tell; It may be proper however, if Mr. Shirley does <not, that> you should appoint such officers by actual Commissions, <for if> they are obliged to do such duty, which will expose them <to greater> danger than they would be liable to otherwise, they should <have> something to show they acted

by your appointment, in <order to> support their Claim to an extra allowance for that Service. Platforms for your Batteries may be made of squared Loggs laid close together, if you have no Plank, which will take much time to prepare. The Army in one of the Exped^s. to Canada suffered much, by half roasting their Pork over the Coals. A General in an irregular Expedition, will think this a Matter that merits *his* Notice. The Season will probably subject the Men to much Sickness if great Care is not taken as to their Prov^s & Water. Their Rum, if the allowance is large ought to be mix'd with water, I mean delivered out mix'd to them. In a warm season the Men will be apt to lye out of their Tents which the officers sho'd prevent if possible. The Massachusetts are to provide Oakum, & some of their Tools may be taken to Caulk the Batoes if wanted. May a Vessel be built at this End of the South Bay. If you intend it; remember you have no Rigging, Sails, nor have you Iron enough in that Case, but you have Money: I understand as to the deficiencies arising from the other Colonies to furnish the Indians with what they want, Mr. Shirley says you are to draw on him or General Braddock. Have you got Smiths & Carpenters enough among the Forces, they may be had at Albany otherwise. There are Sailors among the Rhode Islanders, who will be best qualifed for the Train of any you have. I suspect, nay I may say Mr. Shirley told me, you would not have all the Mortars mentioned by the Comm^{ee} of Warr; Is it possible to prevail with him to let you have any of them which he has taken. Examine the Stores the Massachusetts send as soon as possible. I write this at our Friend Dies's, 10 oClock Saturday Evening. <Brazier sets> out in the Morning early if the Govr's fre,¹ if he <sho'd write, does not> detain him. Its a contemptible <allowance for your Table,² but youl not be obliged to advance now I> hope. It is however <more than the other Provinces have yet> done. If you cant take the Fort with <200 Rounds, its doubted> if you

¹ Letter.

² Fifty pounds. *Colonial Laws of New York*, 3:1125.

can take it tho you had 300 which you write <for; tho it's> a very bad Reason for not sending you more Powder <& Ball.> Examine the size of the Massachusets shells, that they be suitable to the Mortars, for if Gov^r. Shirley has taken part of the latter, you may have Shells you dont want, and be destitute of those you have need of. If you have Shells & want the Mortar here, you may have it. Spare Carriages its thought will be rather an Incumbrance then necessary; as the Cannon, as far as we know, are small at Crown Point & cannot dismount yours. Our Companies will be with you soon I hope, but will not prevent your moving. For a Man of Business I think I have really wrote enough but you will impute the redundancy of my Pen to the Overflowings of a Heart fill'd with an anxious Concern for your Success, & I had rather write a Sheet of Nonsense than a Hint should escape me which I thought might be of any use to you.¹

INDORSED: <Mr Banyars letter 5 July rec^d 9. D^o Ans^d.>

FROM BENNING WENTWORTH

A. L. S.

<Portsmouth, July 6th 1755.>

SIR,

Haveing met with u<n>reasonable delays from the assembly occasions the Regim<ent> raised in this Government for the Crown Point Expedition, under the Command of Joseph Blanch<ard> Esqr. to be much later than I at first proposed, but haveing given him my final orders without loss of time to take the most Expeditious & direct way to March his regiment over <to> Hudsons River to joyn the Main Army <I> am hoping he will Exert himself, & recover part of the Lost time.

¹ Inclosed were two resolutions, dated July 5th of the New York assembly touching reinforcements and an increased allowance for artillery, and an order of that date on Abraham De Peyster in favor of Johnson, drawn by James De Lancey. Printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:669-70; Q, 2:390-91.

I directed him to order a detachment from His regiment of two Companys, to march with the greatest Expedition to Albany, w<ith> a Sufficient Credit to purchase Batto's, and other Necessarys in order to transport the Quota of Provisions Sent from Philadelphia belonging to this Province to Crown point. The assembly not haveing made any provision for that Service prevented it's being done before. I wish you all Imaginable Success, & am Sir

Your most hm Serv^t.

B. WENTWORTH

<MAJOR GENERAL> JOHNSON.

Coll^o Blanchard will Inform you how long His regiment is to [remain] on duty by a Vote of Assembly —

B W¹

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: July 6th. 1755 —

Gov^r. Wentworths letter

FROM EDWARD BOSCAWEN TO AN UNKNOWN PERSON

Extract

Philadelphia, July 7th.

To Confirm the above Accounts we have Permission to insert the following Extracts of a Letter from Admiral Boscawen:

Torbay, June 17th. 1755 off Cape Breton:

“The French have Sent into these Parts a Strong Detachment of Troops Consisting of Six Battalions of old Troops under the Convoy of three large men of War, and Some Frigates in Pursuance of His Majesty's Instructions to me. I have Seized the *Alcide*, a man of War of Sixty-four Guns: and the *Lys*, pierced for Seventy four Guns, her lower Battery not mounted, having on Board Eight Companies of Foot, Several Engineers and the Military Chest or Part of it. Monsieur De Bostange² who was

¹ The postscript was not in the Hastings proof.

² Chevalier de Rostaing, colonel of infantry.

to have Commanded the Troops in the Second Post was killed on Board the Alcide."

We hear that the English Fleet now Cruising between Cape Sable and the Gulph of St. Lawrence Consists of 30 Sail of the Line under Admirals Boscawen and Mostyn and Commodore Oburn;¹ and that they daily Expected to meet more of the French Fleet, who it is Said were 24 Sail when they Left Brest.²

FROM JOHN WATTS

A. L. S.

New York, 7th. July 1755

S^R

Since I wrote a few days ago by Mr. Pitcher, the assem[bly] have alter'd their Measures in con[c]ert with Gov^r. Shirley, as our Gov^r. inf[] from thire Message. Massachusetts has supply'd Necessarys to the Value of £3500 Lawfull Money, according to their Acc^t. laid before us, which is equal to £4666 this Currancey, we have supplyd our Quota of £2000. & £1000 [] on the Credit of the Provisions, besides these Sums Mr. Shirley has engagd to ma[ke?] good to you at Albany about £1652 & we have advanced on the faith of y^e others [] concerned (I fear a broken Reed) £940. odd so that the Estimate of your completely made up out of the Three Sums we furnish to the amount of £3940

The Gov^r pays for what Necessarys he provides & the remainder you draw & account for. Admiral Boscawen with so large a fleet so near the Enemy & Mr. Shirleys Expedition must I think make your work much the easier. They will certainly be apprehensive of some genral attack, & keep their strength at [] God grant you Success both for your own honour & happiness & that of y^r Country

¹ Holburne.

² The author of the Philadelphia letter, possibly written to Johnson, is unknown.

This will be handed you by my kinsman James DeLancey, whose inclination it seems is for the Army & he has luckily made a high Leap, I hope he may [] well. My Compliments to Mr. Wraxall & all friends & believe me Sr.

Yr. Most Humb. Serv^t.

JN^o. WATTS

ADDRESSED: To Maj. Gen^l Johnson
at Albany

☿ Fav^r. of Cap^t. DeLancey

INDORSED BY P. WRAXALL: John Watts. N. York 7 July
Rec^d. 17 d^o.
1755 Ans^d

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

New York 8 July 1755.

DEAR SIR

According to my last I applyed to the Governor, that I might have his approbation to procure 200 Indian Arms to send you in order to save time, being convinced you would have them provided here, as you wrote long ago to Mess^{rs}. Colden & Kelly for Arms to be sent to you, who have this affair in Hand, and if they get a number of those that are good and light I will desire they may be ship'd before the Return of Brasier. I spoke to the Governor about sending you a Gunner or two from hence, at first he thought he must undertake for the Pay, but when I told him an order would do from him to the Pay Master to <pay> them out of the Surplusage which might arise from the Companies not being or continuing Complete, he seem'd to like it very well, and I am endeavouring to get a very clever Fellow, but his Terms are high, if he will consent to go now we have a Report of War by a Fishing Schooner arrived at Marblehead, the Master of which says, he put a Man on board a 50 Gunship as a Pilot to

Halifax, the Captain of which told him he had a declaration of war on board. I tell it you as a piece of News we have, give it what Credit you please. If we can get this Man he says he'll find another Hand to act under him (at a lower Rate) I imagine at all Events you'll be able to find out some Method of paying him, if the one I mention should not answer the End: My greatest Fear is the apprehension of a war may make him Backward. A little Fellow was yesterday at the Gov^{rs}. who was at Crown Point about 3 weeks ago he <said (he is an> Indian Trader taken Prisoner from the Westward); the Acco^t. he gave me, was but imperfect I judge, but such as <it is> I will give you & myself the trouble of it. <He told> me he saw about 25 Men, one of them who spoke <English> a little, informd him, there were 15 gone out to Cut <Wood to> make some Conveniencs for the Officers Stores. That <the> Walls of the Castle¹ (or Citadel) were 6 feet thick in the <third> Floor, each Floor arch'd. and the Top also. & Guns <mounted> in the apartments he was in — Knows not the Number — that the Guns in

¹ Fort St Frederic is a fortification on the southern extremity of Lake Champlain, situated on a neck of land between that lake and the river which arises from the union of the river and Wood creek, and Lake St Sacrament. The breadth of the river is here about a good musket shot. The English call this fortress Crown Point, but its French name is derived from the French secretary of state, Frederic Maurepas, in whose hands the direction and management of the French court of admiralty was at the time of the erection of this fort. . . . The fort is built on a rock consisting of black lime slates, as aforesaid; it is nearly quadrangular, has high and thick walls, made of the same limestone, of which there is a quarry about half a mile from the fort. On the eastern part of the fort is a high tower, which is proof against bombshells, provided with very thick and substantial walls, and well stored with cannon, from the bottom almost to the very top; and the governor, Mr Lusignan, lives in the tower. In the terre-plein of the fort is a well built little church, and houses of stone for the officers and soldiers. There are sharp rocks on all sides towards the land beyond a cannon shot from the fort, but among them are some which are as high as the walls of the fort and very near them.—Peter Kalm, *Travels*, v. 3.

the Castle were mounted on Carriages — those on the Curtain of the Fort, on Loggs groov'd, no Ramparts on the Fort, but Galerys like Albany Fort, 6 Guns in the Curtain he took Notice of, none in the Bastions, Walls of the Fort about two Feet thick, & and as there are no Ramparts it must from his Account be a naked Wall, that their chief Defence must be the Castle as he term'd it. That before he came to the Fort he heard there were <600 Men there> but was informed to the Contrary by somebody living near it. That he did not hear they were under apprehensions of an attack, but believed the Cachniwages who went from Albany suddenly, lately, went with an Intention to alarm the French. I ask'd several Questions to find whether there were any Casemates, he said not, as there could not be if there are no Ramparts, But that he saw a Man who came from an apartment under the Gate with a ladel & a sponge for the Guns. This could not be their Magazine, which beyond doubt must be under the Citadel. Is it not possible that a Strong Party might go before the rest, pass the Fort & prevent any succours or may they not by Stratagem seize their Brigantine, this if effected, would enable a Few Men to prevent any Supplies. Should I hear that Sir Charles Hardy does not leave England so soon but that <I may make> you a visit before you go. I am resolutely <bent upon> it. I wonder where the devil the Massachusetts Store Sloops stay, surely they have not slipt away in the Night. Order an Account of what thy bring to be taken immediately & compared with ours & your Estimate. Let me know how you like the Carriages. You have choice of the 18 pdrs: & I should be obliged to you for a relation of Matters between you & Gen^l Shirley. I am with great truth & Esteem, Dr S^r

your obed^t. humble Serv^t

GW. BANYAR

GENERAL JOHNSON.

TO PHINEAS LYMAN

*Df.*¹*Albany Tuesday noon 8 July*

SIR

I had some thoughts of coming over to the Camp this Afternoon but I think it necessary to have Meeting with the Colonels of each Regiment first, and therefore I beg the favour of your Company at my house between 4 & 5 Clock this Afternoon & that you will please to communicate this to those Colonels who may be in Camp. I am Sir

Your Most hum Serv^t.To MAJ^R. GEN^L. LYMAN

FROM COLDEN & KELLY

[		]	
Bought of Co[lden & Kelly]			
[] & 9	2 five Gallon Caggs pickled Sturgeon @ 24/.....	[	]
10 & 11	2 Caggs 6/ Contain ^g . 6 Gallons Vinegar @ 1/ 2 Caggs 6/..	[	]
12	1 ditto 3/ cont ^g . 5½ Gall ^s Lime Juice @ 4/.....	[	]
13 to 24	12 Caggs & nails 15/ Cont. 2..0..6 N ^t Milk Bread @ 36/	4 [	]
25	1 Bar ^l . 1/6 Cont ^g . 13 Gam ^s . W ^t . 108 ^{lb} @ 6 ^d	2 [	]
26	1 ditto 1/6 19 Shoulders... 133...6 ^d	3 [	]
27	1 ditto 1/6 16 ditto...146 ...6 ^d	3 [	]
28	1 d ^o 1/6 q ^t 6 Rhode Island Cheese 120 ^{lb} . 6 ^d	3 [	]

¹ In handwriting of P. Wraxall.

29	1	Box 1/3 qt 28 th Soap...6 ^d ..	—	1	[]	[]
30	1	d ^o 1/6 51 th Candles...8 ¹ ...	1	17	[]	
31	1	Bar ^l 1/6 qt 93 th Cut Tobacco in papers.....10 ^d	3	19	[]	
32 to 42	11	Iron Bound Caggs @ 8/ qt. 112 Gal ^s . rum 3/6.....	24	[]		
43	1	pott 3/3 qt 400 pickles..5/...	1	[]		
44	1	Box qt 29 Gro pipes..2/9..	3	[19]		
45 } 46 }	2	Bar ^{ls} . Cod Fish.....25/..	2	[10]		1
47	1	Box 3/ qt 3 Doz. Claret.28/..	4	[7]		
48	1	d ^o 3/.....3 d ^o28/.....	4	[7]		
49	1	d ^o 2/ qt 13 Bottles Sweet oyl is 3 Gall ^s . 12/.....	1	[]		
50 to } 60 }	11	Caggs @ 5/6 qt N ^t . Contents a pipe M. Wine.....	48	[]		
61 to 71	11	d ^o @ 5/6 qt. ditto a pipe Vidonia Wine	27	[]		
78	1	Box 3/ cont ^s Viz ^t . 28 th Coffee				
		@ 1/3 £1..15..—				
		28 th Chocolate				
		@ 1/8 £2.. 6.. 8				
		6 th Bohea Tea.....				
		@ 5/6 £1..13..—				
		2 th Green ditto.....				
		@ 30/ £3..—..—				
		4 Doz. Knives & Forks....				
		@ 7/ £1.. 8..—				
		1 do. Freemason Glasses...				
		—..18..—				
		1 d ^o . Mustard.—..15..—	11	15	[8]	
79	1	Barr ^l . 1/6 cont ^s 97 th Loaf Sugar1/1.....	5	6	7	
80	1	d ^o 1/6 3 Bushells fine Salt 2/6	—	9	[]	
81	2	Gloucester Chees in Canvis W ^t 21 ¹ / ₂ 10 ^d	—	17	11	
82	1	Bar ^l . 1/6 qt 2..0..2 N ^t . Sug ^r56/.....	5	14	6	

6 Neat's Tongues Sent loose..			
1/6.....	—	9	—
13 Bottles to put Sweet oyl in..	—	4	[]
Cartage nails & Labour on Ship-			
ping the Gun's ⌘ Bogardus..	—	8	[]
[] Cartage Sturgeon			
6 ^d . Vinegar 6 ^d . & Lime Juice 6 ^d .	—	1	[6]
[] Gamons 1/ & 4			
Bushells Bran to pack them			
in4/8.....	6	[	]
[] Cartage Bran			
Cheese & Tob ^o . 1/6 Soap &			
Candles 6 ^d	—	2	[]
d ^o . 11 Caggs to put Rum			
in 6 ^d . & when full 1/6.....	—	2	—
Portage a pott of pickles 4 ^d . Cart-			
age pipes 6 ^d . & 2 bls Cod Fish			
6 ^d	—	1	4
Cartage a Box with Tea Coffee			
Chocolate Mustard Glasses			
& ^c in	—	—	6
d ^o . of 2 Box's Claret & 1 of			
Sweet oyl 6 ^d . & 22 Cagg			
to put Wine in 1/.....	—	1	6
Carting 22 Caggs Wine being 2			
pipes	—	4	—
12 half pound Cannisters for Tea			
12/. 2 pound d ^o . for Green			
Tea 3/	—	15	—
Cartage Loaf Sugar 6 ^d . fine Salt			
6 ^d . Tin & nails for all y ^e .			
Caggs 3/	—	4	—
Coopering & heading up the			
Salt Loaf Sugar Tob ^o . }			
Chees. Gam ^s . & packing the			
Gamons	—	6	[]
Paid And ^w . Gotier's Acc ^t . for			
Marqui poles & ^c for 3 Tents	2	19	[]
Thomas Wenman for mak-			
ing & find. materials for d ^o .	11	9	[]

[ca]sh paid John Thompson his Club on St. Patricks day		3	2	—
[ca]sh paid for a pipe best Vidonia Wine & Cartage		24	2	—
[ca]sh paid Fre ^t . Gun powder [Ⓕ] Dover & twice Cartage & Entry		1	6	9
ca[sh] paid Hen Holland for 10 Bls pork @ 70/ £ 35..—..—				
Cooperage Cartage & pickling them		6	10	
ca[sh] paid P V B Livingston for 5 bar ^{ls} . Beef @ 50/.		12	10	0
10 W ^t Holland Gun powder @ £ 12.....		120	—	—
[] small arms 29/6		147	10	—
[] tage the Beef powder & arms		9	6	
		315	16	4
[] 9 Hhds & 2 Bundles Furrs [Ⓕ] snow Chance..		9		
[] lading		1	—	
				9
[] paid Jam ^s . Alexander Esq ^r for 18 y ^{ds} . lace @ 14/..		12	12	—
for 28 yds Gr. Allapeen 3/3		4	11	—
for 3 Doz. Coat Buttons		—	12	—
for 2½ Doz. Vest.....		—	5	—
for 1¾ yds Velvet 30/		2	12	6
Noel for 200 Quils....		—	6	—
[] for 1 Doz. paper's Ink powder.....		—	8	—
[] Ream fine post paper		2	2	—
[] 9/ & a Basket 6d.		—	9	6
		23	18	—
[] ½ measuring 7/6		41	12	6
[]				1

¹ Several lines missing.

[Fre]ight Books paid Mr Banker. —.. 3..—	25	—	9
[] paid for 2 p ^d . Bottles Rappee @ 8/.....	—	16	—
[] paid Hen. Holland Ⓢ order.....	7	8	9
[] paid Cartage &c ^a . Flower.....	—	1	—
[] paid Charges of Shipping Beaver Ⓢ Griffiths	—	1	6
[] paid for 200 Limes.....	—	13	—
[] paid for 300 Lemmons.....	1	2	—
[] paid for 200 Limes..... —..13..—			
[] 1500 ditto @ 2/3 Cooper- age & Cask 9 ^d 1..14.. 6			
[] Cartage Beav ^r . 6 ^d . Entry on Shipp ^g . Genson 1/. —.. 1.. 6	2	9	—
[] paid for 4 bar ^{ls} . pork @ 65/ & 1 d ^o . Mackrel £1	14	—	—
[] for 1 bar ^l . Mackrel 20/ 418 th Beef @ 3 ^d ... £5.. 4.. 6 6.. 4.. 6			
[] Bar ^{ls} . to pack Beef —.. 6..—			
[] Cartage —..11..—			
[]			¹]
[]			¹]
1755 Amount the Debit brought from[.....			]
July 9 th . To Cash paid Entry & Bills Lading Shipping [.....			]
To amount 7 Chests small arms sent Ⓢ Begar[dus			]
To amount Sundries by Cap ^t . Dow Ⓢ Bill parc[.....			]
Cr.			
1753			
Nov ^r . 18 th . By Cash Receiv'd from Ab ^m . Dele- noy for 50 th Beaver @ 7/3... [			]
1754			
Mar. 23 ^d . By Cash Received from Begardus for 8 packs Dearskin..... [			]

¹ Several lines missing.

1755

June 27 th . By Cash Rec ^d . from Oliver Delancey Esq ^r	[			]
July 9 th . By amount sales of part of Sund ^s . Rec ^d . from him £ acc ^t	[			]
Ballance due to C. & K y.	70	2	16	'2]
New York July 9 th . 1755 Err ^s . & Omissions				
Excepted £ Colden & Kelly				

ON BACK OF SHEET

[				²]
[	] a Cask of Castoreum rec ^d .	£	—	— 6
[	] & Labour Flower d ^o .		—	1 —
[	Car]tage Dear skins d ^o .		—	— 3
[	dit]to Beaver d ^o .			6
[	Am]ount Carried to Col ^o . Johnson's Credit	225	1	9
		£	225	4 4

¹ See From Colden & Kelly, July 17, 1755 for balance.² Several lines missing.

FROM JOHN DE PEYSTER

A. D. S.

July 9, 1755

An Acc^t. of the provision &c In Store att
Albany for y^e N York force.

	Buss of pease	Barrl cheese	Barrl pork	Barrl beef	Barrl flower	Barrl Bread	firkens butter	Barrl Rum	Barrl Vineger	hogsd Ryst
1755										
July 9	831½	12	199	140	90	998	28	101	8	12

⌘ JN^o DE PEYSTER Commis

INDORSED BY WRAXALL: New York Commissaries
Return of Stores
Delivered the 10 July 1755

TO MOSES EMERSON

Df.¹

Albany 9 July 1755.

[²]
[] by Capt Thaxter & Lieut Combs Master [wor]kmen
over the Carpenters employed in the Expedition under my Com-
mand by the Gov^t. of the Massachusetts Bay, that they require
by their constant Labour a greater Quantity of Provisions than

¹ In handwriting of P. Wraxall.

² Several lines missing.

the said Gov^t. have ordered for the Soldiers in their Pay; You are hereby ordered & directed to Issue out Provisions for the said workmen in proportion to the Degree of their real wants

To MOSES EMERSON Esq^{re}.

Commissary Gen^l. for
the Province of Massachusetts
Bay.

Signed by the Gen^l.

TO JAMES DE LANCEY

*Df.*¹

Albany 10 July 1755

SIR

Yesterday about noon Brazier delivered me your <Honours> few Lines of the 6 Inst. I wish Your Honour, I wish the whole British Interest on this Continent Joy, upon the <good> News w^{ch}. you Confirm, may it be the Introduction to <further> Subjects of Felicity to us, may it not only inspire us with <suitable> Gratitude, but with every Patriot Virtue, & may the favor<able> Opportunity lent us by Heaven, be improved with that Gen<erous> ardor as may secure to the present Times, prosperous Tranquility and merit the grateful Applauses of Posterity.

Gov^r Shirley is within 4 miles of this Town so that I must defer Answering upon the Several Subjects w^{ch}. by your Direction Mr. Banyar has mentioned to me & the Papers he has sent me, till I have conferred with that Gentleman.

Last Saturday my Conferences with the Indians ended. I have only time at Present to Advise you that they made an Unanimous Declaration that they would stand by their Bretheren the English & woud in no shape assist the French. In this I have abundant reason to believe them sincere & that the whole Confederacy are at present more warmly disposed towards our Interest than they have been for these 40 years past. I believe

¹ In handwriting of P. Wraxall.

many more will join me than the Legislatures have made Provision for. I wish I were so fortunate as to have been thought worthy of more Confidence than a limited sume for limited Numbers. The Crown have done me the honour to confide in my Integ<rity> as well as my Abilities, and it shall be my Pride in every Instance to convince that a Generous confidence is the truest Security.

I am Sir

Your Honours Most Obed^t hum. Serv^t

To Gov^r DELANCEY

FROM MOSES EMERSON

A. D. S.

Albany, 10th July, 1755 .

Invoice of the Stores belonging to the
[Massachusetts] Bay — Viz^t.

3 bbls Sugar
10 bbls Pitch
5 bbls Tarr
363 Powder Horns
292 Tents
3 Large D^o. for the Collonells
53 Tarpolins Painted
1313 Hatchetts
1001 Wood Axes
150 Pick Axes
20 Adices ¹
22 Broad Axes
215 Cleavers
3 Anvills
4 Vices

¹Adzes.

- 1 Beak Iron
- 15 Iron Crows
- 18 Sledges
- 2 Hand Hammers
- 2 Riviting Ditto
- 10 Chizells
- 6. p^r. Tongs
- 2 Dozⁿ. Sheep Skins
- 12 Ream Paper
- 48 Skains Marlin
- 60 Fathom 4 Inch Rope
- 10 Fathom 5 Inch Ditto
- 9. 0. 0 Oacum
- 200 Beds & Bolsters
- 96 Sheets
- 6 Squares
- 21 Dozⁿ. Bowles & Platters
- 2 hh^{ds}. & Cask Sundry Clothing
- 4 Whip Saws
- 1 Dozⁿ. Handsaws
- 1 Cask Sundrys, viz^t. Files, Hand Vices
&^c for y^e Armoures
- 9 bbls Ginger
- 50 bbls Cannon Powder
- 50 D^o. Pistol Ditto
- 2 Cask Flints
- 50 Baggs Bullet 56th in each Bag
- [] Jarrs of Oyl for the Sm[]
- 1 Smiths Forge
- 13 Spades
- 11 Dozⁿ. & 8 Handles for Spades
- 3 Shaves
- 3 p^r. Pinchers
- 6 Augers
- 7 X Cut Saws

8 Terces & 1 bbl Sea Coal
 23 Dozⁿ. Shovells
 1 p^r. Bellows
 1200 wooden Spoons
 1500 Firmers
 18 Budge bbls
 13 Drums & Sticks
 250 Cartouch Boxes
 200 Flasks
 96 Tin Kettles
 200 Mallets
 3200 Tent Pin
 200 Pin Bags
 20 Grindstones
 6 Barrs Steel
 413th Barr Iron
 15 Crow Barrs
 5 Cask Nails
 16 Dozⁿ. Shod Shovells
 200 bbl Pork
 Rec^d. from Boston y^e above Articles

1349 bbls Bread	} rec ^d . from Pensilvenia
465 bbl Pork	
182 bbl Beef	
50 hh ^{ds} . Rum	
561 bbls Flour	

MOSES EMERSON

ADDRESSED: To Maj^r. General Johnson
 In Albany

INDORSED BY P. WRAXALL: Massachusetts [Bay]
 July 10th. 1755 []
 then returned by the
 Commissary.

FROM CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

A. D. S.

Albany July 11th. 1755.

[
 Pork, Bread, Rice, Sugar, Beans, Rum [
 Meal, Molasses, Butter, Pickled Codfish, Ginger [
 Soap. &c.

N. B. the Colony of Rhode Island has only [
 of the above Articles a Sufficient Quantity of each, to Vict[ual]
 the 400 Men raised, for 12 Weeks (four Weeks of which
 [] already expended, that only 8 Remains in store)
 agree[] to a Certain allowance Voted to be given the
 Soldiers by the General Assembly, of s^d. Colony, fully depend-
 ing upon Recovering their due proportion, of the Pensilvania
 Grants, to be laid out in provisions for the Troups to be Employed
 in the Crown point Expedition.

Provided also by s^d. Government for use of their Troups, 800th
 of powder, 1600th of musquet Ball, Paper, Flints, Small Arms,
 Cartouch Boxes, Hatchets &c in proportion to the Number of
 men.

✂ CHRIS CHAMPLIN []

FROM ELIHU LYMAN

A. L. S.

11th: July 1755S^r.

The Colony of Connecticut made Provisi<on> for Six
 Months Calculating for one Thousand Men, viz, Bread, Beaf,
 Pork, Rice, Flour, Oatmeal, Indian Corn, d^o. Meal, Samp,
 Cheese, Ginger, Pepper, Candles, Soap, Rum, Molasses &
 Brandy. The Greater Part of which is comè to hand, y^e
 remainder expect to receive as we Shall Need, about Ten or

Twelve Days of Said Provisions are already expended, likewise have Thirty two half Barrels Powder, 130 Bars Lead, one Cask Flints, two Sheets Lead

ELIHU LYMAN Com^{ry}

To The Hon^l. WILLIAM JOHNSON Esq^r

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Connecticut Commissarys
Account of Stores &c.

TO JOHN BRADSTREET

*Df.*¹

Albany 12 July 1755

[SIR]

The perpetual Hurry I have been in since [I] had the pleasure of seeing you has put it out of my Power to write you & Answer your favour as fu[ll] as I would willingly do. I hoped for some spare time before now, but tis not come. I am more than ever engaged at present. Gov^r. Shirley has this Moment sent me Word that he is dispatching an Express to Oswego, so that I have only time to tell you that I inclose you my Order to Mr. Mills to deliver you what Goods of mine he has in his hands for w^{ch}. you will please to Credit me.

The Indians have promised their Assistance & I expect I shall have a large Body of them with me. Success & Happiness attend you. I am Sir

Your most hum servt.

TO CAP^t BROADSTREET

¹ In handwriting of P. Wraxall.

JOHN RUTHERFURD TO HIS WIFE

*Extract*¹*Camp on Laurell Hill, 12 July 1755*

I have delayed writing this Week past but now a Retreat is ordered and the blow Struck by the Indians who with a very few Canadians among them have entirely defeated our General and the Division of our Troops which he carried along with him, and what's worst of all our Train of Artillery is left in their Hands which ruins all hopes of doing any thing this way. Sir Peter Halket was killed in the Field regretted by all Mankind and his Son Lieut^t. Halket. Major Halket came off unwounded with a few officers more, all the rest killed or returned wounded, many very dangerously, amongst whom are the General & Sr John Sinclair.² Captain Gates³ has a slight wound. Lieut. Semain⁴ killed and Lieut. Miller⁵ returned unwounded. Capt. Gates with 50 of his Men having marched with the first Division and my Company and Cap^t Demare's⁶ with the remainder of his under Lieut. Spearing⁷ marched in the second Division, except a few of our Men who had gone up to the first Division with a Convoy of Provisions. The Slaughter on our side is surprizing Considering General Braddock had 1500 and I dont believe the Indians had 300, but they chose a very advantageous Ground within 9 Miles of Fort Duquesne.

INDORSED: Extract of Capt. Rutherf[urds] letter to his Lady concerning the Defeat —

¹ In handwriting of G. Banyar. Inclosed in Banyar to Johnson, July 25, 1755, q. v.

² Sir John St Clair deputy quartermaster general. He was later lieutenant colonel of the 62d regiment. His name is frequently and erroneously spelled Sinclair.

³ Horatio Gates, captain of New York independent company.

⁴ Simon Soumain, lieutenant in New York independent company.

⁵ Richard Miller, lieutenant in New York independent company.

⁶ (Raymond?) Demeré, captain of South Carolina independent company.

⁷ William Sperring, lieutenant in New York independent company.

REPORTS OF THE QUARTER GUARD

D. S.

July 12 1755

A Report from the Quarter guard of the Rhode Island
Re[giment]

Three prisoners, Nathaniel Onion & David Scipio committed
for desertion, & Peleg Pender for Suspicion of desertion.

EDWARD GRAY Cap^t of the Gu[ard]

July 12 1755

To COL GOODRICH

A report from the Quarter Guard of the Connecticut
Regime[nt]

Nothing Extraordinary has happened on my Guard, visit[ed]
my Sentries at the usual time

MATHEW HUNTINGTON Cap^t of the [Guard]

To COL GOODRICH officer of the Day.

FROM WILLIAM COCKCROFT

A. L. S.

Albany, 13th. July 1755

S^r

A Report of the Camp Guards.

All's Well

Parole Oswego

W^m. COCKCROFT

To GEN^L. JOHNSON

INDORSED: Col Cockcrofts Report

13 July

ORDERS TO COLONELS

A. D. S.

Head Quarters in Albany 14 July 1755.

The Hon^{ble}. Maj^r. Gen^l. Johnson Commander in Chief of the Provincial Forces raised on an Expedition to Crown Point dos hereby Order & direct that the Colonels of those Regiments under his Command who have not already sent to head Qrs Rolls of the sever<al> Companys in their Reg^{ts} distinguishing in diff^t. columns the officers Commissⁿ & noncommissⁿ & Soldiers Names — ages — Trades, that they send the same to me without any avoidable Delays.

And that weekly returns be also sent to me from each Reg^t in the form as here under specified.

PETER WRAXALL Aid de Camp.

Form of Weekly return to be signed by the Command^g.
officer of each Reg^t.

Weekly return of Col.....Reg^t

Rank & file Effective	Dead Time.....	Wounded	Deserted	Si<ck>

INDORSED: Order for Rolls &
Weekly Returns

FROM JAMES DE LANCEY

L. S.¹

SIR

<New York, 14 July 1755.>

The Bearer Captain Patrick Boy<le> applyed to me for some office in the Train looking upon himself well qualifed as a Gunner from the Experience he has gained in his Service on board the Kings Ships and on board several Privateers; and from other Services he has seen, he says he is in some degree acquainted with the Method of preparing and firing of Shells. He has an extreme good Character both as a bold resolute Man and one who understands the Business he is now desirous of being employed in. His Views are not founded on any Advantages he may re<ap> merely from this Service, but he hopes if we take and garison Crown Point he may be fix'd there as Gunner, with some appointment, by which, and the Opportunities he thinks his Situation in that part of the Country may give him in point of Trade with the Indians, he believes he may do very well, inclining rather to stay on Shore than go again to Sea: He is a very brisk Man, and his Activity and Skill, I imagine will more than recompence the want of his hand. <He was> desirous I should give him a Commission <in> the Train but I thought it best, and I have referred it to you, assuring him you would promote him according to his Merit as far as may be in your Power. As you must have very few if any Persons qualifed as Gunners I was willing to encourage him to wait on you with a tender of his Services and I have told him if he takes the Charge and Care of the Ordinances and Stores supplied by this Province I will do my Endeavour to get him an Allowance from the Assembly for that Service

I am Sir Your most humble Servant

JAMES DELANCEY

<To: GENERAL> JOHNSON

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: July 14th. 17<55>

Mr. Banyars le<tter> to Me

¹ Body of letter in handwriting of G. Banyar.

FROM WILLIAM HUNTER

A. D. S.

July 14th: 1755

List of Sick in the two Companies of Colonel Christopher Harris's Regiment Encamp'd near Albany

Uncapible of duty in Lieu^t. Colonel Edward Coles Companie.

Peter Bowdoun

John Gardner

George Harrey

Robert Lee

John Wayman

James Whalin

Uncapible of Service In Captⁿ. Henery Babcock's Comp[any]

Hezekiah Ingraham

WILL^m: HUNTER Surgeon

INDORSED: Return of the
Sick in Colonel
Christopher Harris's
Regiment

FROM JOHN PITKIN

A. D. S.

July 14th, 1755

[] Regiment. Nothing remarkable found three prisoners under Guard for desertion. th[ey] continued with the officer who relieved me

George Gardner officer of [the guard]
from the Rhode Island Camp

July 14, 1755

A report from the Connecticut Quarter guard.

Jonathan Gager confined for abusing his Serg^t & for being abusive to his Lieut. David Davis of Cap^t Sanford Compa[ny] confined abse[nt]ing himself from the Guard and abusing the Corporal of the Guard

Ebenezer Billing officer of the [guard]

A Report from the officer of the Day

The Parole Ontario

There was an alarm in the Camp Yesterday at Night Occasioned by discovering Some Indians near the Camp, they were pursued & Some discovered particu[lar]ly [one] of them by Lieut Huntington of Maj^r Foots C[om]pany in Col Goodrich Reg^t. Who had a fair Cha[nce] to Shoot at him but his gun mist fire. I ordered the picket Guard to be out all Night, doubled the Sentries, visited all the Guards & found all well. I am

Your honours most humble Serv^t

JOHN PITKIN

To GENERAL JOHNSON Esq^r

INDORSED: Col. Pitkins Report.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

<New York 15th. July 1755>

<SIR>

The Bearer Captain Patrick Boyle hath <obtained> the Governours Letter recommending him to you for some <office> in the Train: His first application was to the Governour. <On> hearing I was making inquiry after proper Persons who would go and Assist in the Train. M^r. Dies makes no d<oubt> he will

be of Great Assistance, and it is from this Motive that I have interested my self in the Matter. He relies intirely on you to make him a Recompece for his Services, and to remove any difficulty, I told him I would defray his Expences if you and he did not agree. Such persons are <a> very necessary appurtenance to the Train, and therefore <the> providing them falls expressly within the meaning of the Grant our Assembly have made in the Act I sent you a Copy of. He appears to me a Man of good sence, of some knowledge in Gunnery and to know something of preparing and discharging of Shells: his Fort will be, the finding out proper persons in the Army to S<erve> in the Train, to keep them to their duty, To see things <done> according to yours & the Engineers Instructions; and, notwithstanding he is deprived of one of his hands it will be found he will *do* very near as much as any one. He will be a proper person to have the care of the Stores of the Train if you have not already appointed one. He is spoken extremely well of by Persons acquainted with him here, who are Glad he is employed in this service, conceiving he will be very usefull. With him I send one Edward Collard a Person whom Cap^t. Boyle thinks a very necessary hand. I inclose you the agreement I have entered into with him, in which I undertake for his discharge on request after <a Month. I found it necessary to do this to please him, not> that I imagine he will desire to be, or that <he can be> discharged till the Service is over. I have had four or <five> others with me a few days ago. Some insisted on Seven pounds, but none would go under Six pounds, and my Obligating my self to allow Smart money &c^a. in case they were wounded. His Expence cannot be great, And the Governour told me he Should have no objection if such Persons were putt on the Muster Roll of any of our Companies not Complete. By this method Cap^t. Boyle may have some what better provision made for him. The Governour said you and Colo. Cockcroft would easily manage this matter. I hope my Zeal for the Common cause, In which I assure you I have been much influenced on your own Account,

hath not carried me too far, by incumbering you with Persons you are possibly already provided with: It is my opinion you have them not, if you have, you cannot have too many, as you are sensible much will depend on that part of the Army. I am Sir your most obed^t humble Servant

GW. BANYAR

A Vessel arrived this Afternoon from Halifax, by her we learn, that the Lys the other French Ship taken by Adm^l Boscawens Squadron was arrived there: The French Troops at Halifax amount to between 5 & 600 Men, the whole number from France scarcely amounts to 3000: They come in 14 sail from Brest six Men of War, the other 8 were Men of War but fitted as Transports: Monsr. Macnamara¹ with 6 Sail convoy'd them till he thought them out of danger & then left them. Admi<ral> or Commodore Holburne was arrived at Halifax with 6 Ships, one <of which called Le Mars was lost> going in, <every thing except> the Hull will be saved. Holburne staid but a day <& went> out again, Admiral Boscawen was off Louisburgh <still.> it is said 3 or 4 of the French Ships are got into <Louisburgh,> the rest its imagined may have mis'd our Admiral & <gone> up the River St^t Lawrence: On the appearance of Cap<tain> Rous² in the River St^t Johns, the Garrison in the Fort ab^t <40> Men nail'd up their Guns, demolish'd their Fort & Stores & went off, the Indians there applyed to Cap^t. Rous as Friends, and told him if he would stay a day or two as many of them as he pleased to take, would go with him to Halifax and embrace the Peace offered by the English. I believe I heard he did not stay for them. The Frenchmen were not concerned at their *detention*, hop<ing> to go back to France, they are all old Troops, Regim^{ts} of the Provinces of France, much averse to coming on the American

¹ Comte de Macnemara, lieutenant general.

² Captain John Rouse. See *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 10:59-60 (note).

Service, ready to Mutiny, but to satisfy them in some measure their King allows double Pay to Officers & Soldiers.

<To

GENERAL JOHN>SON.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: July 15, 1755

Mr. Banyars letter.

AGREEMENT BETWEEN EDWARD COLLARD AND GOLDSBROW
BANYAR¹

A. D. S.

New York 15th. July 17[55.]

Edward Collard of the City of New York M[]
engages to go under the Command of Major General William
Johnson to act as a Gun [] or otherways to assist in the
Management [of] the Train of Artillery to be employed on
the present Expedition against Crown Point In Consideration
whereof Goldsbrow Banyar of the said City Gentleman under-
takes to pay to the said Edward Collard for his Services
aforesaid at the rate of six pounds New York Currency p Month
to commence on this day and to continue until the Expedition
shall be at An End or until the said Edward Collard shall be
discharged from the Service, which the said Banyar promises he
shall be upon his Request at any time after the Expira[tion] of
one Month. Witness their Hands the day and year first above
written And the said Edward Collard acknowledges to have
received of said Banyar six pounds for one Months Pay.

EDWARD COLLARD
GW BANYAR

Witness

[] Godby

¹ D. S. of Collard, A. D. S. of Banyar.

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Df.*¹*Albany 15 July 1755*

SIR

Herewith Your Excellency will receive a Copy of the Engineers Report of the Quantity of Powder w^{ch}. he judges necessary for the Expedition to Crown Point under my Command and that he do[e]s not think it safe & prudent to undertake it with less. I concur in his Opinion and as the Provision made by the Colonies [] this Article amounts only to 448 Barrells.

I must desire your Excellency will make up the Deficiency out of His Majestys Stores under your Command, with which I hope you will comply as the honour & safety of the Public Service do[e]s in my opinion demand it. I have no other Resource.

I am &c.

To His Excellency

MAJ^R GENERAL SHIRLEY &c.

INDORSED BY WRAXALL: Letter to Gen^l. Shirley
With Engineers Reports
of Quantity of Powder
necessary for Crown
Point Expedⁿ.

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Df.*¹*Albany 15 July 1755*

<SIR>

Upon the Conversation I had this day with Y<our> Excellency & the Explanations you were pleased <to> enter into with me upon Col. Lydius' Behaviour at my House the Secretary for Indian Affairs has expunged from the Records Your Excellency's Name in the Note then talked of. And it now stands recorded thus

¹ In handwriting of P. Wraxall.

Col. Lydius¹ came to Mount Johnson with an Interpreter, & several Indians complained to Col. Johnson that Lydius had been privately persuading them to go to Niagara w<ith> him. They expressed their Displeasure at this Application of Lydius^s; upon which Col Johnson spoke to M^r Lydius & forbid him & the Interpreter to interfere any further with the Indians, as it had & would occasion an uneasiness amongst them w^{ch}. might be prejudicial to the Service in general.

I am Sir Your Excellencys Most Ob. hum se^t

To His Excellency MAJ^R GEN^L SHIRLEY

WILLIAM TRENT TO ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS

Copy²

<Mouth of Conicocheg. Wednesday, 16 July 1755

May it please Your Honour:

Being> informed that you were on your Journey <for-the> Army but stoped at Sheppensburgh on <account> of the News brought by the Waggoners who <run> off at the begining of the Engagement makes me take this opportunity of acquainting your Honour, that by a young man just come here from the Camp, we are informed that our Army is beat, and the Artillery taken; but that the Generall with the rest of the Army are making a good Retreat; as the person who brings this Account is a sober young man, come from fort Cumberland, since an express arrived from the Army, <I> think this Account the best to be depended upon, and I Imagine there will be no great Danger going to the fort, where I intend to set out for this afternoon. I am Your Honours Most obed^t. hum^{bl} Servant,

WILLIAM TRENT

To the Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS Esquire Governor of Pensilvenia at Shippensburgh
Ex.

¹ See Shirley to Johnson, July 17, 1755.

² Inclosed in R. Peters to J. De Lancey, July 19, 1755, q. v.

MEMORANDUM OF EFFECTIVE MEN¹

16 July 1755

Effective Men in Col. Williams ^s Reg ^t	394
Maj ^r . Gen. Lymans Reg ^t fit for Duty S. C. D. & P. ² Men	463
Col. Goodrich ^s . Reg ^td ^od ^o	442
4 Comp ^s . of New York Effective S. C. D. & private Men	378
Two Comp ^s . of Rhode Is ^d . Reg ^t fit for Duty S. C. D. & P. Men.....	181

S. C. D. & private Men fit for Duty..... 1858

Col. Ruggles has not yet delivered in either Rolls or returns of his Reg^t nor Maj^r. Nichols commanding officer of Col. Titcombs Reg^t Col. Harris is busy with his for the two remain^g Companies who arrived but yesterday The remainder of N. York Reg^t not arrived.

Col. Ruggles
re<turn> 16
July 397. S.
<C. D.> &
Clerks.
Col. Titcombs
return 19 July
437. Enlist
<ed> & now
Effective.

INDORSED: Mem<orandum of effective
Men, 16 July 1755 by> returns.

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY

In *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:671, is a letter from William Shirley to Johnson, informing him that an extra supply of gunpowder is allowed for the Crown Point expedition.

¹ In handwriting of Peter Wraxall.

² Sergeants, corporals, drummers and private.

FROM COLDEN & KELLY

[New York, July 17, 1755]

[									¹]
[	]	5 Ct. Holland Gun Powder							
		@ £ 14...	£	[70 .. 0..	0	]			
91	12 doz Cutlashes.....	£ 3-..	36[.. 0..	0	]				
92	paid for 500 Limes.....	7/..	1.. [15..	0	]				
93	d°. for 1 Case of Cordials..		2.. 2.. [.. 6	]					
—	d°. for Cartage Powder 3/x								
	d°. y°. Cutleses 1/—..		0.. 4.. [.. 0	]					
—	d°. for Cooperage 3 ^d		0.. 0..	3					
			£ 110..	1..	[9	]			
To Ballance of another Acc ^t			702..	16..	2 ^d [	]			
			£ 812..	17..	11 ^d [	]			

FROM JOHN DIES

D. S.

[New] York July y^e 17th: 1755

[Bill of charges to province of New York for ordnance carriages and stores shipped to Albany, care of Messrs Schuyler and De Peyster²] By Order of the Hon^{ble} James DeLancey Esq^r. Lieutenant [Governor].

2 Cannon 32 pounders			
6 ditto 18			
2 ditto 12			
4 brass 6	} Field-pieces		
4 d°. iron 6			
1 brass Mortar 8½ inches			

¹ Lines missing here.² Words in brackets supplied from the Johnson Calendar.

To Charges for making and Materials to compleat			
2 Carriages with limbers for 32 pounders, 6			
ditto for 18 ditto, 2 ditto for 12 d° are.....	[		]
To James Lawrence for			
making 7 set of wheels			
Spokes included @			
£7..4..1 ⌘ set.....	50..	8..	7
To d°. for nave Timber for			
10 set of Wheels.....	4..	6..	9
To d°. for 7 set of Cart			
Boxes	4..	17..	0
To d°. for Cartage by him			
advanc'd	11..	6	60 []
To James Hallet for making 3 set			
of Wheels w th Spokes @			
£7..4..1	21..	12..	3
To ditto for 3 sets of Cart			
Boxes	2..	11..	7 24 []
To Peter Geraurd for making 10			
Carriages with Limbers Timber			
included @ £5..7..7 ⌘ piece.	53..	15..	10
To ditto for Timber and			
Workmanship to fix a			
Boom to each Carriage.	7..	18..	9
To ditto for fellow Timber			
for 10 sets of Wheels..	7..	4..	4 68 []
[To] Charges of Smiths Work &			
Iron for 10 Carriages			
To John Myer for making			
& finding iron for 1 Car ^g .			
for a 32 p ^{dr}	23..	1..	9
To John Vangelder for 1..			
32 pounder	23..	12..	0
To David Provoost for 1..			
18 ditto	22..	13..	10
To Samuel Waldron for			
1..18 ditto	22..	0..	10
To John Romer for 1..18			
ditto	20..	14..	11

To Robert Crommelin for 4 double Wadd-hooks ..5/6	1.. 2.. 0			
To 12 Charges Grape Shot for 6 pound ^{rs} . 5/6...	3.. 6.. 0	[		]
To Thomas Oakes for 1 Powder Measure for 32 pound ^{rs}				
To 2 ditto for 18, To 1 d ^o . 12, & 2 d ^o . for 6 pound ^{rs} ...	a 5/.. 1..10.. 0			
To 25 Canisters for Pat- trige Shot	12.. 6	[		]
To William Puntine for running 560 w ^t . of lead into Bullets for Grape Shot ..12/.....	3.. 7.. 0			
To 600 of Ball Lead in- cluded ..8 ^d	20..17.. 4	24	4	4
To Wynant Van Zant Jun ^r . 20 handspikes to be Shot..1/6...	1..10.. 0			
To 1 Cartridge box for 32 pounder	10.. 0			
To 2 ditto..for 18 ditto.9/.....	18.. 0			
To 1 ditto..for 12 ditto.....	8.. 0			
To 2 ditto..for 6 ditto.6/.....	12.. 0			
To 10 doz. Heads or Form- ers for 6 Poun ^{rs} . Grape Shot ..5/6..	2..15.. 0	[		]
To 400 Shot for 32 Pounders w ^t	12800 th			
To 1200 Ditto 18 Ditto ..	21600			
To 400 Ditto 12 Ditto ..	4800			
To 400 Ditto 6 Ditto ..	2400			
	41600 th			
is 371C.. 1Q..20 th @ 20/		[	]	
To 1 Gin block & Fall.....		[		]

To Abraham Lefferts for 2 Handscrews.....	[		]
To Humphry Jones for 1 spare Gin Fall, To 1			
Coil white La[].....			
Rope for Mortars 3 in. To 1 d°. for Mens			
Traces[]			
To tarr'd Rope for Gun Slings []			
[			]
[] for 100 Pick Axes 1/.....	[		]
[Ha]ndles for ditto by Vanzant & Vandyke ..8 ^d			
[] outenburg for 10 Crow Bars wt 152½ ^{lb} . 6 ^d .			
[] Well 15 large leather Buckets..16/....			
[To Abr]aham Van Deursen for 5 ditto @			
16/..for Rings 2/6.....			
[]ard Light for 12 Sides Tann'd Hides for			
Men's			
Harnesses wt 105½ ^{lb} a 1/4.....			
[]lin Talman for 1 Barril Tallow wt			
232½ ^{lb} .. 6 ^d			
[] Lansing as ⁹ / ₁₀ Acc ^t . for painting 10 Car-			
riages 20 leather buckets and marking them & 6			
Cartridge Boxes	13	[	]
John Sutton for Making 18 Spunges			
& finding Skins.....	1..	7..	0
To ditto for making up 170			
Charges Grape Shot.1/. 8..10.. 0			
To ditto for Filling and Fix-			
ing 400 Fusees for hand			
Granades	2..	17..	6
To ditto for 1½ Powder 3/6			
To 125 Tacks..8 ^d	—..	4..	2
To ditto for Gun Powder,			
Salt Petre, Fl. brimstone			
& car ^g pap ^r	2..	2..	5
To ditto for Line & nails to			
fix the Grape Shot.....	—..	9..	6
6 ^c ..1 ^q ..4 th Lead @ 50/ for Grape Shot &			
Partridge ditto			
To 10 Priming Horns & 10			
Priming Wires @ 3/6			
& 6 ^d	2..	0..	0

To 2 Gunners Levels or Quadrants.. 30/	3.. 0.. 0		
To 2 pair Calliper Com- passes.. 251	2..10.. 0		
To 6 Lintstocks.. 3/.....	—..18.. 0	[	]
To Goelet & Curtenius for 1 ♂ brass Scales with a set of Lead & brass wt. compleat.....		[	]
To 1 doz. sorted claw Hammers..12/..		[	]
To James Nash for proving the Guns to be sent up		[	]
To Thomas Moorc for 26 scains Marlin to tye up the Grape Shot, the Rammers, & Staffs & Pick Ax Handles.....		[	]
To Goodwin & others getting the Guns on board Tobias Ten Eyk's Sloop.....		[	]
To Jacob Gardinier & others Riding Guns & Car- riages to the Sloop.....	2	[	]
To sundry Carmen riding 22 loads as the.....		[	]
To Teunis Van Tessie riding 20 load Cannon Ball		[	]
To George Welch for branding the Carriages...		[	]
To Andrew Gauteire for 9 cases for Stores, Tops & bottoms of 25 Canisters Packing and tacking them up.....	1..7..9		
For 1 box 1/6 Packs & nailing up all the rest 3/6	—..5..0	1	[]
[] shar for Shoeing 20 Hand- spikes 2/6		2	[]
[] Gunners Handspikes 1/3..		[	]
[] Brimstone			
@ 2/	10..0	1	[]
[]	12..6		
[]			
To my Commission @ 2½ ♂ Cent Errors Excepted JOHN DIES			

TO PHINEAS LYMAN

D. S.¹*Albany 17 of July 1755*

Instructions for Major General Lyman —

1.

You are to take into your charge Two Brass Field p^a. their Carr<iages> & stores w^{ch} will be D D.² y^o by the commissary of the Artillery to march with all the officers & Men effective of the Regiment under Your Command, with the Battoes, Amunition Stores &c. thereunto belong^g from your present Encampment, to the Flatts, where the Massachusetts Troops are Encampt and there you are to take under your Comm<and> The Regiment commanded by Colonel Timothy Ruggles Officers & Men Effective, Battoes, Amunition Stores &c thereunto belonging, also the Officers & effective Men of Colonel Eph^m Williams's Company, of Lieu^t Colonel Pomer<oy's> Company of Captain Hawleys & Captain Porter's Companys, of Colonel Ephraim Williams's Reg^t their Battoes, Amunition Stores &c to them belonging.

2.

You are to receive the aforesaid Troops at the Flatts, their Arms, Accoutrements Battoes S<tores> &c & send me a general Return of the Number of Commission & non Commissⁿ officers & their Rank and also of the Men Rank & file.

3

You are then to preceed with your Command to the House of Col. Lydius near the Carrying Place³ where you are to erect Log Magazines covered with Bark Sufficient to contain &

¹ In handwriting of P. Wraxall.

² Delivered.

³ Later, Fort Edward.

<secure fr>om the Weather, the Amunition Provisions &c belonging <to the> Army under my Command. I must recommend to you such a Scituation for these Magazines as may best secure them from any Attempts of the Enemy. <This> you will also be very attentive to in the Encampment of your Troops w^{ch} must be so laid out as to cover the Magazines.

4

From the Flatts to Col. Lydius's, you are to open the Road Twenty five to thirty feet wide where it will possibly admit of it, to have the Trees, Logs & all obstructions cleared away, the Stumps trimed close, Bridges well repaired where necessary & good Ones made where wanted, on the whole as good a Road made for Carriage as possible, and besides the officers who are over the workmen you will please to take a review your self. As you are well apprized of the Sudden & lurking attacks of the Enemy, I make no doubt but you will so dispose your Troops & keep up such a Discipline amongst them, as will secure the whole Body from any reproachful Insults from the Scouting parties of the Enemy.

5

In all matters of Consequence wherein these Instructions are not detirminate you will call a Council of War to consist of as many Members as you shall judge proper & to regulate your Conduct accordingly.

You will please to keep Minutes of your Proceedings herein for my future Inspection.

6

As the Troops under your Command have not been used to a Regular Military Life, let me recommend to you, to keep up as strict a Dis<cipline> as Circumstances will possibly admit of, and <to establish> and preserve that due Obedience & that relative <Sub>ordination without which every kind of Military Undertaking will be Shameful & probably fatal.

I shall speedily send out & shall be constantly keeping out reconnoitring Parties of Indians abt Crown Point & the circum-jacent Country, some white Person as an officer will always be with them, tho there should be but three or four Indians, I shall distinguish our Friend Indians with a red Fillet round their Heads, & should a single One by any Accident fall in your way, I shall direct him to call out Warighajage w^{ch} is my Indian Name. If the Indian partys are any thing numerous they will always have one or more white officers with them & a [*British or English*¹] small Red Flag. Should one or any of our Indians be killed or wounded as an Enemy thro the eager rashness of any of our Troops, we shall run a risque of loosing all assistance from these People, w^{ch} would be an Event of the most fatal Consequence. I think therefore it will be proper that every Man both officers & Soldiers be made acquainted with the Distinctions I have above mentioned at the head of the Several Companys & by their Chaplains every Sunday that it may be thoroughly imprinted on their Memories. You will take care that a few Indians do not draw you into an injudicious pursuit, & that no Man upon pain of Death dare pursue the Enemy without proper Orders from his Commanding officer. If due regularity be preserved neither in <March>ing nor in Camp can a few Indians do any <Mischief to a Body> of Men & indeed they will not attempt it, but they will never miss taking an advantage of Disorder & rash Confusion.

Signed WILL. JOHNSON

INDORSED: Instructions for Majr.
General Lyman

¹ Words in italics and within brackets are erased in manuscript.

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY

L. S.¹*Albany July 17th. 1755.*

SIR,

I must desire you to order your Secretary for Indian Affairs to let me have a Copy of the Proceedings at the late Conference between you and the Indians at Mount Johnson, as soon as conveniently may be; and that you would favour me with attested Copies of the Letters I sent you by Col. Lydius sometime in June last, and of another which I wrote to you by L^t. Colonel Ellison in the same Month.

I am favour'd with your Letter² of the 15th. Instant, wherein you acquaint me that upon the Conversation, w^{ch}. had pass'd between us that forenoon, your Secretary for Indian Affairs had expung'd my Name out of the Note then talk'd of: and send <me> a Copy of that Note as it now stands recorded: I cant avoid repeating, Sir, that I look upon the Secretary's foisting in that Note, as a very gross Affront upon me; and notwithstanding the Excuses, you offer'd to me for him, I cant but be of Opinion that his inserting false Facts in the Records, by way of explanatory Notes, in order to ground personal Reflections upon them, w^{ch}. is evidently the Case here, is an Abuse of his Trust.

The Note is introduc'd in the following manner: The Indians tell you pa: 27 " that you had promis'd them you would keep the Pla<ce> clean from all Filth, and that no *Snaķe* should come into <the> Council Room; that the Man, pointing to Col: Lydius was a <Devil> and had sold their Lands, <"> &c^a.

In Page 29 you acknowledge you made 'em that Promise, and <that> " you did desire that no *Snaķe* should come into the Council <Ro>om, that if Col. Lydius had done as *they represented*, and w^{ch}. you was afraid was in a great Measure true " &c^a.

¹ See Johnson to Ellison, June 30, 1755.

² Johnson to Shirley, July 15, 1755, q. v.

On pretence of explaining this Complaint of the Indians, your <Secre>tary subjoins the Inclos'd Note:¹ You cant but observe, Sir, how <for>eign & impertinent the Subject matter of this Note is to what it <pre>tends to explain; that it hath not the least connection with it, that the only Intent of it is to raise a Reflection upon me: and every word in it is pointed for that purpose.

As to the Orders which it is asserted Colonel Lydius shew'd <yo>u from me, directing him to do what he is charg'd with in the <No>te, you must be sensible from the whole Tenour of my Letter <to> him, in w^{ch}., it is pretended, those Orders are contain'd, that <the>re is no Colour for the Assertion; on the Contrary, my <Let>ters to yourself shew that he was order'd by me to act under <y>our Directions in the Affair.

You assure me, Sir, this Note was inserted without your Direction or privity, I verily believe it was; But I cant avoid saying, if you had been so good as to have order'd it to be struck out, when you first discover'd it; it would have been more consistent with the Regard, w^{ch}. I flatter'd myself, you <had> for me, and I think is due to me on every Acc^t.

This Note hath put me upon a more strict Inquiry into Colonel Lydius's Behaviour in this Affair, than I had before made; The Acc^t. he gives me of it is inclos'd, & he offers <to> verify it upon Oath: If he is not mistaken in it, I cant think him so blameable, as you seem to do; especially considering, I had given him an Officer's Commission for the Indians, w^{ch}. should join in the Expedition agst. Niagara.

I depended upon your having engag'd some Indians to have proceeded wth. my Regiment from Schenectady to Niagara, when I sent you my Letter by Col: Ellison, and must own <I> was greatly disappointed at the Acc^{ts}. he gave me from ti<me> to time, of the Answers he receiv'd from you.

Your Opinion that there is no Occasion for any Ind<ians>

¹ Proceedings of Indian Affairs. Extract, June 21, 1755, q. v.

to join me 'till my Arrival at Oswego, is singular; all persons besides, whom I have consulted in this Affair are of different Sentiments; I am so myself.

I dont understand your Commission in the same mann<er,> you seem to do; I cant think General Braddock intended to forbid me by it to take any Steps for procuring Indians to go with me from Schenectady to Niagara; or that you should assume <to> yourself a Power to engage all the Indians to go with yourself to <Cro>wn point: Your Commission, I think, was given you to <use> your best Endeavours to engage them generally in his Maj^y's. <Ser>vice, for Niagara as well as Crown point; & that it was your Duty to comply with my Demand of a Number of Indians <to> go with me; and not forbid all Persons to speak to any <In>dians for that Purpose.

In particular, I am surpriz'd, that you should very lately <offer> Capt'n. Staats one of my own Commissions, if he would <raise> a Company of *Stockbridge* or River Indians, to go with <you> to Crown point; and forbid him to raise any to go wth. me.

It seems to me inconsistent for you to desire my Directions <in> the Execution of some parts of your Commission, w^{ch}. you do; <and> insist upon having Military Commissions from me for the <Offi>cers of the Indians; likewise to act yourself under my Commission & Instructions, some of w^{ch}. are relative to your raising <of> Indians, and yet think I am infringing upon your Commission from General Braddock by doing what I have done, especially when I dont understand, that you have yet endeavoured, or now design to engage any Indians to go wth. me.

The last mention'd circumstance makes it necessary for me to let you know, that I think it necessary for his Majesty's Service, that I should have a Party of sixty or seventy Indians to escort me from Schenectady; & as I shall proceed from thence in a Short time, I must desire forthwith to know what I am to depend upon from you in this point: upon w^{ch}. you will be pleas'd to give me an explicit Answer.

You will likewise be pleas'd to make me a Return of your Suite, and of the Officers of the Indians: and I must desire you to furnish me with an Answer to the Inclos'd Extract from General Braddock's Letter: viz^t. what you have already done and what you propose should be further done for engaging the Western Indians; & what Provision you have made or intend to make for distributing Presents there for that Purpose.

You may depend upon my doing everything in my Power for the further Support of the Expedition under your Command; and to make the Execution of it as easy & agreeable to you as may be: Mr: Alexander hath my Orders to pay you £1654 towards the Expence of the hire of Waggon & other Carriages for transporting the Train of Artillery & Stores to Crown point, which I have rais'd upon my own private Credit, to prevent an absolute Stop's being put to it's proceeding. I shall give Commissions of a Quarter Master General, Surgeon General, and Commissary General of the Military Stores, to the Gentlemen you have recommended to me for them; & most readily do whatever may be further in my Power, for facilitating the Execution of your Command.

I cant think it in Character either for you to have desir'd, or myself to give Answers to the Queries you have lately sent to me in the Form you have put 'em in. But I shall give you the most satisfactory Directions I can in writing upon the Matters therein contain'd.

I am, Sir, Your Obedient Humble Servant.

W SHIRLEY

MAJOR GENERAL JOHNSON.

INDORSED BY P. WRAXALL: Gov^r. Shirley's Letter
Albany 17 July 1755.
Recd y^t. Evening
abt 7 a Clock.

JOSEPH KELLOGG TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY¹

[] to go to Albany and [] there Some time before the Governour arived, I heard of a gen[] with the Six nations at Mount Johnson I thought proper [] Improvement to go up there, in order to have it in my power to acq[ua]int His Excellency with their Sentiments relating to the Expe[di]tion] but was prevented in the manner following.

Next Morning after my arival at mount Johnson after Common Salutations, as I was Sitting upon a Log before the [] Talking with Some Indians about Common affairs Colonell Lydi[us] Came to me and Called me aside and acquainted that it was General Johnsons orders to me, not to Speak to the Indians, upon which I entirely Desisted and acquainted the General that as I was not sent there by any body, I should not interfere in any shape Contrary to his orders he then Told me that Col^o. Lydius h[ad] Shewn him a power from Governor Shirley to Speak to the Ind[ians] But that Neither he nor any body Else nor General Shirley had any power or authority to go to them Speak to them or Transact any thing with them, but only himself alone [by] virtue of a Commission from his Majesty and that he would acquaint Governor Shirley with the Same as [soon] as he Should See him and further that he knew of no ocation [] Generall Shirley had for Indians this he told me at this [] head after Colonell Lydius had given me his orders as af^{sd}. and he again repeated it at Supper in presence of Col^o. Ly[dius] and others then at Table, and further I could perceive that C[ol.] Lydius and my Self were Very unwell Come Guests there pl[] in the Generals Countenance

And further that I Could not perceive any t[] Least

¹ In handwriting of J. H. Lydius. Inclosed in Shirley to Johnson, July 17, 1755, q. v.

Dislike, of the Indians at our being there, but []
 all appearance, greatly the Contrary: and As they St[]
 and repeatedly Express'd their Gladness of Seeing me after
 [] manner I am Sr.

Your Excellency's Most Dutifull

And most Obedient Servant

JOSEPH KELLOGG

INDORSED: Lydius's & Kellog's
 Memorandum

JOHN HENRY LYDIUS TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*A. L. S.*¹

[]
 [at Mount Johnson between the Indians of []
 Nations and myself.

First a general Salutation as [] by them till I
 met one Nicholas a Connajoharie Indian after Salute []
 Nicholas he asked me if I went in the Expedition, to which I
 reply [] I did, he then asked me which way? I
 answered, to Niagara, and a[sked] him if he would go along,
 he replied, pointing to her, there is my wife if you []
 ask her Consent, accordingly I went to her, and asked her if my
 Elder B[rother] Should go along with me to Niagara? She
 replied he might if he would then, I went away from her and
 never Spoke to any other Indian the[re] to go along with me to
 Niagara or anywhere else. Next morning about ten of the Clock
 Major General Johnson Called me aside and []
 me not to Speak to any Indian, to which I reply'd I did not intend
 without his Leave and then acquainted him with what is above
 Wrote to which the Gen^l. replied that if I did not Cap^t. Kellogg
 did, and Desird [] to forbid him, upon which I
 Shewed him y^e. Generall a Letter I received by Col^o. Ellison,

¹ Inclosed in Shirley to Johnson, July 17, 1755, q. v.

from His Excellency General Shirley, which having [] he Said, that he Imagined Governour Shirley did not know the purport of his Commission, and should be obliged to acquaint his Maj[esty] therewith: and when He should see General Shirley he would talk Smartly to him, after which I Called Cap^t Kellogg aside and [] the Generall's orders, on the afternoon of the Same Day an Oneida Indian named Connaghquayese rose up and used many Vexa[tious] Words, this Same Indian has Received from me Three Hundred and Seventy Dollars for a piece of Land but having his Majesties Serv[ice] at heart and also the Generall's Injunctions I forbore making any [] The Evening of the Same Day, being in General Johnsons Room he [be]ing present I asked Coweghie an Oneida Indian if he was n[ot] present when I paid the three hundred and Twenty Dollars [] Connaghquayessa? to which he replied, that he was, and had [] of the money, and further that numbers of them, far from being [dis]pleased as represented, at my being at Mount Johnson and speaking [] that numbers of them Signified their Disapprobation and abhorreance of what Connaghquayesse Said; and when I return'd as far as Schon[ectady] Hans the Son of Thicklipsett was there to inform me that th[e] Tribe of the Tortoise, to whom I belong were all Determined to go with me to Niagara, and Several of them have Since been with me at Albany and Confirmed the Same.

And further, when I was Just Going to take my Leave of the General I beg'd him to procure a few Indians to go as Scouts with Colonell Schuyler who was Expected to go up in a few Days, to which he replied that he would try.

This is the whole of my Transactions there. I am Sr.

Your Excellencies Most Obedient Servant

JOHN H. LYDIUS

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Df.*¹*Albany 17 July 1755.*[] Even^g.

I received Your Excellencys Packett, and My Duty in Consequence of General Braddocks Commission & Instructions to me relating to Indian Affairs requires my setting out very early tomorrow Morning, I must necessarily defer Answering the several Matters contained in your said Packet till my return which will be in 4 or 5 days. When I shall give my answers with all possible dispatch.

I acquainted Your Excellency with the necessity of my going home for a few days as soon as General Lyman was dispatched & you approved my reasons I am Sir

Y^r. Excell^{ys}. &c.

To His Excellency

MAJ^R GENERAL SHIRLEY &c.

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Df.*¹*Albany 17 July 1755.*

SIR

I[n] answer to your Excellencys Letter I beg leave to remind you that since your being in this City & [in] your presence I urged some Indians of three diff[erent] Nations that some of their People should accompany you & your Excellency expressed your Satisfaction thereon.

As my time will be so short at home I can[not] possibly call a[ny] Indians but those of the lower Mohock Castle I will let

¹ In handwriting of P. Wraxall.

them know your request, but whether I shall be successful & what Number I may be able to obtain are points w^{ch} I cannot answer you on with any certainty. I am Sir

Y^r Excell^{ys} Obdt serv^t.

To His Excellency

MAJ^R GEN^L SHIRLEY &c.

DECLARATION OF ISAAC STAATS

D. S.

17th: July 1755

[] last about
8 o'clock in the Mo[rning] [] sent for, by Major
General Johnson, I went to his Lodgings [] told me
he had been informed I was endeavouring to get some []
Stockbridge Indians, and asked me who had employed me to do
it [] told him I had done it and at the request of
Mr. Lydius, he told [] I had done very wrong to
meddle with any thing about the Indi[ans] without his leave.
I told him if I had done wrong it was not int[ended] and I was
sorry for it, he then told me that if I would raise a Company of
those Indians to go with him to Crown Point he would give me
a Captains Commission, I told him I could not undertake to do
that as I had engaged a Number of White Men to go as Battoe
Men with General Shirley to Niagara and th[at] I expected to
be Captain of them, he then forbid me to meddle with the Indians,
or to use my endeavours to get them to go [to] Niagara with
General Shirley.

ISAAC STAATS

INDORSED: The Declaration of Isaac
Staats relating to his
engaging the Stockbridge
Indians.

TO MOSES TITCOMB

*Df.*¹*Albany 17 July 1755*

SIR

I think it necessary for his Majesty's Service that Cap^t Eyre should make an Examination amongst the Troops what Persons are capable of acting under him as Gunners & other Dutys relating to the Artillery, and I desire you will assist herein & in all other parts of his Departm^{<ent>} w^{ch}. he may judge necessary.

When Gen^l Lyman & his Party are marched from the Flatts I would have the Troops now encamp^t over the River march & encamp at the Flatts & Cap^t Eyre the Q^r. Master General will lay out their Ground & give what further Directions are further necessary therein.

As you are sensible of the necessity of keeping up regular Camp Duty you will Please to see all former Orders Obeyed & add such others as Circumstances may require.

I am Sir Your hum serv^tW^m. JOHNSON

To COL. TEDCOMBE or The Commanding officer in Camp

I expect to be in Town again in 3 or 4 d^s.

FROM JOHN DIES

A. L. S.

New York July y^e 18 1755

[SIR]

With this I send you the whole at.² of the Train w[hich] I have Provided and Ship^d. to Mess^s. Schuyler and D[e Peyster]

¹ In handwriting of P. Wraxall.

²Account.

By his Honours orders, to be by them Delivered to your
 [] I have Done all In my power, to what
 was Given my Charge, Done In the Best Manner I Could,
 Considering the Short Time alow^d. me, Mr. Banya and I have
 Ad[ded] Several Small artickels, which I thought might be
 wa[nted], In which hope have not Done amiss, we have Taken
 a good Deale of pains to Incourage persons fitt for Gunners to
 Goe up to you and agree with you, but in Vain, they would not
 Stirr without we^d. agree for [] p^r. Month and pay
 one Months wages, this we Could have Manag^d. but they wanted
 Security In case of the Loss of a [] that Provition
 Should be made for them, which is [] our power,
 As the Asembly have Made no provition In that Case, How-
 ever, that you M[a]y have Some, Mr. Banya has agreed with
 one Collerd, and paid him one Months wages, who I belive will
 Doe Verely well [] a Montross. Capⁿ. Boyle the
 Bearer here of Goes [] erly on his own ac^t. to you
 I belive will Sute you w[] He Seems Verely Fond to Goe
 on the Servis, he is one of apr[oved?] Courage, he has Sarv^d.
 In the Navey, has been Guner on board Several priveteers and
 has Comanded one the Latter end of Last War, when he Lost
 the hand he now wants, he was Desired to have the Stump Dres^d.
 but he Dam^d. and Shook his hand overboard, Rap^d. the Stump
 In his Handkirchiff and Fought Till the Battle wass over. I
 have Examned him as to his Quantety as Gunner or Bombardier,
 and think he is as well Qualefeyd as aney we have in this place
 and hope you^l. Incourage [] have Sent
 by him 2 Gunners Quadrants 2^{ll} of nittre, 2^{ll} of flower of
 Sulpher and 6 oz of Campheir. they may be wanted In Making
 Fuses. I have apley^d. to the Governer for Money who Told
 me he waited your orders to Draw, However as the workmen
 Could not waite, he Gave me an order on the Tresurer to advance
 me Six hundred pounds besides I have advanc^d. above £100
 Since.

As for News we have none but what you have In the puplick
prints, I shall Be Verey Desirous To hear Som From Maj^r.
General Johnston from Crown point att whos Sucksess I promis
to Gett D—K. In the Intr^m. am S^r.

You^r. Verey Hum^l. Sar^t

JOHN DIES

TO MAJOR GENERAL JOHNSTON

INDORSED BY P. WRAXALL: July the 18th. 1755
John Die's letter with
his Acc^t.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL ELLISON TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Extract*¹

Extract from L^t Col: Ellison's Letter to Major
General Shirley dated Schenectady, July [18?] 1755.

“Mr. Billings inform'd me, there were seven French Indians
seen by some of the Mohawks yesterday, who told them, they
did not intend to kill or take any English; but to observe their
Motions, and were reliev'd frequently from Canada; I acquainted
General Johnson with this Report to day, as it came from his
House.”

INDORSED: Extract from L^t. Colonel
Ellison's Letter to Major
General Shirley dated
July 1755.

¹ Inclosed in Shirley to Johnson, July 19, 1755, q. v.

RICHARD PETERS TO JAMES DE LANCEY

Copy

Philadelphia 18th July 1755

five o Clock P. M.

SIR

We have in the Absence of Governor Morris who is over Sasquehannah receiv'd the melancholly News of the Defeat of General Braddock it is containd in a small bit of Paper dispatch'd by Coll. Innes from Fort Cumberland at Wills Creek & was forwarded by Governor Sharpe. It speaks for it self & needs no Comment & you will no doubt Communicate it to the Generals & Admirals & Governors on the Continent with all possible Expedition.

Your Honours most obedient humble Servant

RICHARD PETERS¹ Clk. of the Council

It is not an hour since the news arriv'd & no other particulars are come to the knowledge of the Council.

GOVERNOR DELANCEY

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: July 18th. 1755
Mr. Peter's letter
to Gov^r. Delancey

¹ Rev. Richard Peters was born in Liverpool, England, in 1704 and died in Philadelphia, Pa., in 1776. He was a graduate of Oxford and of Leyden, took orders in the English church, came to America, where he held different pastoral relations, was secretary to the land office and to several governors, and was a member of the provincial council. Richard Peters was one of the founders of the Public Academy, from which arose the College of Philadelphia.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

New York 19 July 1755. $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 P M.

DEAR SIR

The Accounts tho bad do not come up to what were sent you before, and I hope will still grow more moderate as we have better Information. they are still imperfect, but it seems certain enough that the General's part of the Army is defeated, tho I hope the Artillery will prove not to be taken. If it is, (and if it is not, perhaps) we must wait with Patience till Oc<tober> when the French must march off or winter there, <In> the former Case they'l be easily mastered I think, <&> starved in the latter: It is now more than ever necessary Gov^r. Shirley shol'd go on *briskly*, there is I think no probability the French will detach a part <of> their strength to Niagara, we are in our own Country & may be reinforced, & even resupplied with Artillery as they may think, but where we can get Artillery time enough I know not. This defeat must be represented in the mildest Terms to the Indians, and should rather I think animate the other two Armies to a proper Resentment than discourage them; The 500 French & 200 Ind^s. as Capt: Broadstreet writes are gone to Niagara is a Circumstance in your favour, If Gov. Shirley goes on speedily & our 4 Vessels are properly supported we may yet I hope disappoint the French & render this piece of Success of no Service to them. The Governor did not at first intend to send this by Express, but on considering that the Boston other Store Sloop is deeply laden & may be long on her Passage, has altered his mind. He thinks the operations should go on with all possible Dispatch, tho' silent on this head in his Letter. If you had the full number you were to have had, I should not be averse in my opinion ag^t. the 500 men Gov. Shirley ask'd for. But you will consider if the French Troops get to Quebec, and tis highly probable they are there now, they will be time enough

to oppose you. On the other hand you may be reinforced but Mr. Shirley cant, I give you my sentiments you know as a Friend, & with the Freedom becoming one assuming that Character. The Mortar & abt 110 Shells from 7 to 7½ will be sent in the next Sloop & be there probably before the Boston Store Sloop which is so full she cant take in anything else. Mr. Dies has sent you the Acc^t. of Stores provided here amounting to about £1100 for which youl please to send him an Order when you receive the Account. the Governor says you are not to pay for the 6 Carriages 18 pdrs making at Albany every thing else you are. I can add nothing now but that you have my best Wishes, & that from your Zeal, activity & Discretion good accounts are expe<cted> from you. I am Dr Sr

Your ob^t hbl. Serv^t.

GW. BANYAR

GENERAL JOHNSON.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: July 19th. 1755
Mr. Banyars letter

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

Saturday Evening, 10 oClock 19 July 1755.

DEAR SIR

Brazier ¹ is cautioned not to say a Word either in his way or at Albany concerning this unfortunate & unexpected piece of Intelligence. It comes in an odd manner and as queerly told, yet I fear tis true in some Measure, their Misfortune must have been owing to their dividing their Strength I judge. I hope it wont stop you. Mr. Shirley should be stronger now I think than he need have been before this disaster. Some think you sho'd both go to Niagara in order to retake the Train & defeat them

¹ Brazier was express rider.

in their Return. I am of a different opinion as yet, because their strength lying so much to the Southward they will be able to do less at Crown Point and Mr. Shirley if reinforced (which both of you should now) may do that alone as part of the Force on the Ohio will I judge return by the way of Mississippi from whence the French its probable have had great Reinforcements. I beg a line only from you by the Return of the Express & am d^r Sr.

your m^t ob^t hble Serv^t.

GW BANYAR.

No News from the Eastward. The French have 3 Ships of the Line in Louisburgh.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: July 19th. 1755.

Mr. Banyars letter
to me

OLIVER DE LANCEY'S ACCOUNT

D. S.

19th July 1755

[Major] Gen^l. Johnson his acct. curr^t. with Oliver De Lancey

[1755]		£	S. d.	1755		£	S. d.
[]	To Cash	1550		Ap ^l . 26	By the N ^t . Proceeds of Bills of		
	d ^o Sent by Cap ^t . Bentheysan.	1600			Exchg. to the Amo ^t . of £1000		
	Paid Mess ^{rs} . Colden & Kelly..	171	4	6	Sterl ^g Receiv'd from Govern ^{rs} :		
	[] an Order for 51 Bat-				Denwidie by Gen ^l . Brad-		
	toes to be del ^d . to you by	295	16		docks ord ^r : w ^{ch} . you were to	1705	
	Coll ^l . Schuyler & John				Receive from me.....		
	Depeyster at 5 ^s : 16/ Eash				By one Thous ^d : Pounds Sterling		
					order'd to be paid you by		
					Gen ^l : Braddocks Warrant		
					on W ^m : Johnson Esq ^r . Dep ^y .		
					Paymas ^r . Generall at 4/8 a	1714	
					Spanish Dollar	198	6
					By Ballance due to Me....		
			</				

FROM JAMES KINNEER

A. L. S.

Albany 19th. July 1755

By Command of His Excellency Major General Shirley I am to desire the favour of you to lett me have a Return of the Blank Commissions given You by His Excellency how they have been fill'd up, with their dates &c. In order to be enter'd in His Secretary's Office. I am Sir

Your Most Obed^t. Serv^t

JAS KINNEER

Aid D'Camp

MAJOR GEN^{LL}. JOHNSON

INDORSED BY P. WRAXALL: Cap^t. Kinneer's Letter to
Gen^l. Johnson for return
of Indian officers

RICHARD PETERS TO JAMES DE LANCEY

Copy

Philadelphia 19th. July 1755

SIR

Since mine of yesterday we have received accounts that the Defeat is not General. That the Army was in two Divisions in the first of which marched the General, having with him thirteen hundred Men, Four Hawbitzers, Four twelve pounders and thirteen artillery waggons. The Second was Commanded by Col^o Dunbar and had not marched further than two Miles West of the great Meadows, distant from Fort Duquesne sixty miles, having with him the heavy Baggage, Ordnance Stores, the Provis<ions> and greatest part of the waggons.

The General was advanced within five Miles of Fort Duquesne and marching in a Narrow way on the eighth or ninth instant when he was attacked by a large Number of French and Indians, and beat but not killed as was said and was making a fine Retreat to Col^o. Dunbar's part of the Army.

The first accounts were given by some frightened waggoners but the latest is from Cap^t Trent¹ to our Governor in a Letter of the sixteenth Instant from the Mouth of Conegochege on the Patowmec distant sixty miles from Fort Cumberland which is copied and sent herewith and I believe may be best depended upon as the man who gave him the Intilligence heard at the Fort what the Express from the Army <said> and reported it to Cap^t Trent.

I shall add that all accounts are hitherto confused and appear to be uncertain so that we have reason to think matters will not turn out so bad as they have been represented.

I am Your Honours most Obedient servant,

RICHARD PETERS

<The Hon^{ble}> JAMES DELANCEY, Esquire.

INDORSED BY G. BANYAR: 19 July 1755
From Mr. Peters

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY

L. S.

Albany July 19th. 1755.

SIR

I inclose you an Extract of a Letter from L^t Colonel Ellison² to me, which I receiv'd late last Night; and as I think it of Consequence that the Mohawks & other Indians of the five Nations should be prevail'd upon to prevent the French Indians from acting as Spies upon the Motions of the English in their Passage thro' their Country, in Order to apprise the French of Canada of them, and of the Number & Strength of our Forces; I hope you will not fail to exert your best Endeavours with the Mohawk and other Castles of that Country, to prevent this Practice, by stopping the French Indians now there, and forbidding others to come from Canada upon the same Service for the future, during this Expedition.

¹ Trent to R. H. Morris, July 16, 1755, q. v.

² Ellison to Shirley, July [18?], 1755, q. v.

From the Engagem^{ts} w^{ch}. it appears from the proceedings at your Conference wth. the Mohawks & other Indians of the five Nations they enter'd into wth. the English, I can't but think this is a reasonable Request to be insisted upon to them; & doubt not but you will accordingly do it.

I am, Sir, Your Obedient Humble Servant.

W SHIRLEY

MAJOR GENERAL JOHNSON.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: July 19th. 1755 —
Gov^r. Shirleys letter

CHARLES READ TO JONATHAN BELCHER

*Extract*¹

Burlington July 20: 1755

This night at 11 oClock

SIR

I Received the following agreeable advice from Philad^e. that a person had arrived from Lancaster there this afternoon who says he was present when an Express arrived to Gov^r. Morris then at Lancaster with advice from General Braddock that on the 9 of July inst. the first division of the Army under S^r. Jn^o. St. Clair in ascending a hill five Mile from Fort Duquesne was attacked by the French and Indians S^r. John badly wounded in the arm and breast was obliged to give back till supported by the second division under the General himself then they ascended the hill and routed the French and Indians and have taken their artillery the English have lost George Crochton and sixty men the Loss on the French side is not known but supposed to be considerable. The man that reported this says he heard the Governour read the Letter to a great number of People he is esteemed an honest Man and is believed but as Gov^r. Morris is hourly expecte<d> in town and hope we shall have it shortly confirmed.

¹ Evidently in Banyar's hand. Inclosed in Banyar to Johnson, July 23, 1755, q. v.

From Charles Read to Gov^r. Belcher.

Gen^l Braddock says the French and Ind^{ns}. were vastly superior to his force and that he only waited for Col^o. Dunbar with the heavy artillery to proceed.

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

A. Df. S.

SIR

July 20th. 1755

Lieut Coll^o. Ellison haveing Acquain[ted] what Your Excellency now writes con[cerning] the French Indians. I sent for y^e. Mohawks [] Spoke to them concerning it, & desired they w[ould] not Suffer any french Indians to come to those p[] for the future. which they promised. [The]y tell me It is about [10 or 12] Days Since those Cogh-nawagas were Spoke with. They Said they only come to Acquaint [their] friends y^e. Mohawks with the designs of the French [] was to Send a party of Anagungeys¹ Orond [] &ca to destroy their old People & Children for their Attachment to the English as Soon as the Men were gone to War. Wherefore begged they would be on their guard and not leave their Castles destitute of Men. Hereupon they repeat their desire of haveing [a] Camp Officer & a party of Men to take Care of their Castles, w^h. is absolutely necessary to be immediately done. They also [] y^e. Mohawks that there were great Numbers of Indians from different parts rendezvous[ing] now at Montreal, in order to prevent our coming to Crown Point. I have Sent 3 Ind^{ns}. with a white Man this Morning to Crown Point for Intelligence. I am

Y^r. Excellencys Most Obed^t. Serv^t.

W. J.

P. S. I should be glad to know how the Men whom y^r. Excellency proposed should Garrison the I find it will be verry difficult, if at all practicable to get any Men here at this

¹Abenakis of St Francis.

time to Garrison the two Mohawk Forts & if to be had I should be glad to know how they are to be victualled & paid.

MAJOR GEN^{RL}. SHIRLEY

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Letter to Gov^r. Shirley
July 20th. 1755

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY

L. S.

Albany July 20th. 1755

SIR

I have just now receiv'd your Letter of this Date, & am of Opinion that you ought by all means to provide forthwith Men & Officers to guard the Mohawk Indians two Castles, according to their Desire.

As to the Question in your postscript viz: how the Garrison is to be victuall'd & paid; if you mean, what Allowance of provisions & pay is to be made to the Men and Officers, I desire you would use your own Discretion in your Agreement with them for both, as I know you are the best Judge of what is reasonable; for the Garrison, and doubt not of your using proper Oeconomy in it: If you mean how the provisions are to be got, & from what Fund they & the pay are to arise, you will supply the Provisions yourself as you think proper; and for the Cost of them, & the pay you will draw upon the Commissaries of the several Governments concern'd in the Expedition agst. Crown point, in proportion to the Numbers of the Men, they severally agreed to raise for that Service at first; and if they do not answer your Drafts forthwith; I will answer your Drafts upon me for that Purpose, pursuant to Major General Brad-dock's Directions to me concerning the Expence which may arise in your engaging the Indians in his Majesty's Interest. I am, Sir,

Your most Humble Servant

W SHIRLEY

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: July 20th. 1755
Gov^r. Shirleys letter

FROM ARENT STEVENS

A. L. S.

<Sunday 12 o Clock. [July 20^d, 1755]

SIR

I beg leave to Mention as you was so kind to promise me to write in my favour to the Gov^r. hope you will do it before you leave Albany, as a letter from you may Induce him to recommend to the Assembly that by some means I may be Paid my Salary which > is due to me, for without <money I cannot maintain my> large family, and if 'tis not Considered <I must be Obligated to> Seek some other Employment to live.

Mr. Alex<ander told> me it was in your Power to Enlarge my Salary, (which <if so> Flatter my self I shall have your assistance <therein,> for on the usual sum, it is hard for me to Continue in <the> Station I am in, these troublesome times,) he Used all Arguments to persuade me to go to the Castle, to speak to those Mohawk Indians in Gov^r. Shirley favour, which <had> any Inclination to Join him, which I absolutely refused because I had no such Orders from you (Tho' I did not tell him The reason) I Persume Cap^{tn}. Ferral has Informed you with the speech Gov^r. Shirley made to the Indians at your house; This Minite I received your Orders which I shall Carefully Obey, but own tis not so Agreeable to be at your house, as when you are Present, I have Inclosed an acco<unt> of what I have reimbursed to the Indians since I saw you last I Send you by Nicke 8 fl ¼ Virmillion which is all I can get by the Merch^{ts} but shall Try by the traders if I can buy you more and send it ☞ first Opportunity I am Sir with the Utmost respect

Your most Obedient hum^{ble}. Serv^t.

ARENT STEVENS

P: S if you have any Commands please to send them by William Vroman Otterwana Just now tells me that the Cajoga and

Onendagahs are Agreed to March through this town,¹ so if I cant Persuade them to go through the Woods beg you will be pleased to let me know in what manner you would have them treated.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: [Are]nt Stevens letter
& Acc^{tt}.

FROM PETER WRAXALL

A. L. S.

Sunday Even. <20 July, 1755.>

SIR

This Evening I recd. your favour of the Morning by Mr. Ferral. The Gout has laid hold me & gave me a great deal of Pain yesterday, but I am better to day, however as I can only hop, I desired Mr. Ferral to step to Mr DePeyster & beg the favour of him to come down to me. he came. I applied to him for the Provisi<ons> for the Indians. he said he had none but for the New York Reg^t. I told him you would borrow from that & replace it, & if he desired I would give him my note for it. to this he consented & Mr. Ferral will get it from him.²

Monday Morn^g.

I have drawn the Draught of an Answer to Gov^r. Shirleys Letter, till I came to the paragraph ab^t. the Western Indians. I did not know w^t. to say on that head. the rest is easily & shortly answered.

I propose to send you said Draught & Gov^r. Shirleys Letter herewith. In two parts it is warm & I think justly so. first in that where you answer to his desiring attested Copies, in the Light I view it, it carries an Insinuation, w^{ch} I think would be a blamable Mildness not to take notice of. Secondly, where it says if y^r. present Command depends wholly on his fav^r. &

¹ Schenectady?

² Account of Supplies, July 21, 1755, q. v.

authority. The Spirit of his whole Letter carries such an overbearing, & Insulting Air with it & he treats you in a stile so Magisterial, that I think your Answer might say more, but cannot less, consistent wth that Independent Spirit w^{ch} you are entitled to show him.

As I apprehend from various Circumstances this Letter of his, may be designed for future & farther Purposes. I am of opinion some such Answer as I have drawn should be given to it, and w^{ch} I think will place y^r. Character in that Light w^{ch}. it truly dos & ought to stand.

Till you have sent him your Answer if I were in your Place, I should shun any personal Conversation with him, nor would I choose it afterwards till he had made some proper Concessions. And I should write him, that <I> begged his future Commands to me might be by writing.

I suspect he will endeavour to meet you at Schenectady & amuse you with Speeches &c. but I think it will be bad policy to let this Letter of his drop without a written Answer. Cap^t Maggin waits for this Packet so that time will not allow me to say the half of what I woud say to you on this Subject. The Extracts from his Letters I have ready. I have also drawn a Draught of y^r Letter to the Lords of Trade. Mr. Ferrall says he believes you wont be in Town till Thursday. After you have altered the Draught I herewith send you in the manner you judge proper, I can draw it out fair if you return it me to be ready against you come.

Oliver¹ has paid me the £90 for Mr. Ferrall & left y^r Acc^t Curr^t. with an Order for the Battoes. Time will permit me to add no more than that I am truly Dear Sir

Your faithful & Affec hum Serv^t.

PETER WRAXALL

INDORSED: Cap^t Wraxall's Letter

¹ De Lancey.

ACCOUNT OF SUPPLIES

An acc^t of Beef pork & bread Lent to M^r Raetsele for Gen^l Johnson to Return as much back again to Jn^o Depeyster¹ In a few days Vz

1755

July 21 4 Barr^l pork
4 barr Beef
12 barr^l Bread

	C	q ^t	
N ^o . 199	... 0 . 3 . 24	...	18
24	... 0 . 3 . 13	...	18
178	... 0 . 3 . 23	...	18
113	... 0 . 3 . 11	...	19
59	... 0 . 3 . 18	...	18
11	... 0 . 3 . 17	...	18
153	... 0 . 3 . 27	...	18
162	... 0 . 3 . 14	...	18
34	... 0 . 3 . 18	...	18
235	... 1 . 0 . 1	...	18
46	... 0 . 3 . 23	...	18
93	... 0 . 3 . 21	...	18

11 . 0 . 14 ...217

1 . 3 . 21

C. 9 . 0 . 21

INDORSED: An Ac^t of the Bread
beef & pork Deliv^d
for Gen^l Johnson
to M^r. Raetsill &
M^r. farrele¹

¹ See Wraxall to Johnson, July 20, 1755.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

Bowry 3 oClock P. M. 21 July 1755

DEAR SIR

We have no account from Philad^a. since the Express and little Credit is given to General Braddock's Defeat but what arises from Fear we think if it were true it must have been confirm'd. The Govr. has ordered the Mortar & Shells to be sent to you, the latter amount to 110 of different sizes from about 7 to 7.½. you have all there are, they couldn't be shipt in this Vessell, as I knew not of her arrival time enough. If the News prove true the Gov. thinks the Colonies ought to send Reinforcements, the first material accounts will be forwarded by Express, in the mean time I hope the Appearance of so unexpected an Event may not stop the operations. O how I lament our not laying hold of Niagara which was in our Power when we might have taken Possession of it, for then it would have been little more. Adieu I am not permitted to add any more but that I am with great Affection yours

GW. BANYAR

Mr Dies's Account is sent you am^{tg}. I think to about £20 less than £1100, add together the Several Sums in the Act payable to you from whence deduct what Mr. Winne brought you & what Mr. Dies is to have & youll know the Remainder which you are to draw for. You are to pay for the small Carriages & Batoes at Albany but not for the 6 Carriages 18 pdrs. Your Box to the Gen^l. went by the Phila Express that bro^t. us the incoherent, unexpected, unintelligible, not to be credited damned bad News, The Vessell wont hold the Mortar & Shells tho <it> is so deep. No News by the Post.

GEN^L. JOHNSON

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Mr. Banyars letter
July 21st 1755.

TO THE LORDS OF TRADE

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 42 by a mutilated draft of a letter from Johnson to the lords of trade on Indian affairs, including land grievances, written July 21st at Albany (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:671-74; Q, 2:391-93, and in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:961-63). Not destroyed in the fire.

FROM JAMES STEVENSON

A. L. S.

Albany 21st July 1755 7 P. M.

SIR

I this Instant received the enclosed letter Under Cover of Mr. John Shireley he expected they might find you at Albany says I need not be at the Charge of an express to forward Cap^t Broad Streets only to forward it by some secure hand, Cap^t Douglass went from my House this morning and hope you will have an opportunity to forward it by him or some other safe Hand I am with Respect Sir

Your most humble Servant

JA STEVENSON

To MAJOR GENERAL JOHNSON

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

<Tuesd>ay 22^d July <4 oClo>ck P. M.

DEAR SIR

My last was in the Evening of yesterday. <We> have had no publick advices since, but private Letters of Saturday Evening from Philadelphia and by a Person who left Philadelphia Sun<day> Morning 8 o Clock, not only the General but the artillery too were safe. The Waggoners <cut> their Horses Traces & run away, frightened at the Beginning of the Engagement, if there was any, for even that was doubted in Philadelphia, where it was imagined that the General observing the Enemy situated in an advantag<eous> Pass had tho^t proper to retire, some even say by way of Feint; we have a Report too that the General has taken Fort Duquesne with the loss of 60

men only. My re<al> opinion is we shall have favourable accounts within a very little time. Little dependence is to be made yet on what we hear. I write this thinking Van Schaick will sail this afterno<on>, with the Mortar & Shells; the things Mr. Colden sends & some of the Pensilvania Provisions. Mr. P. V. B. Livingston was obliged to threaten to protest ag^t. him if he did not sail as soon as the Tide changed. For God Sake use your whole Influence with Gov. Shirley to proceed as fast as possible, if the accounts you have hitherto received keep him in a State of Suspence. The Shells are damn'd dirty & must be burnt I am told to clean them. You can easily make a Carriage for the Mortar. I hope by the next to confirm the best News you can wish for from the General I am with the greatest Regard & Sincerity

Y^{rs}. &c.G^w BANYAR

I suppose I shall write again before you go. if I <should not,> I shall keep up my Correspondence by sending you all the Accounts I can, in the mean time as far as your leisure permits you I beg to hear of your Progress. Wou'd it not be of use to transport your Baggage &c. over the Land by Oxen; they will afford you fresh Provisions. You are silent Concer<ning> the Telescope there is yet time enough perhaps to send it, if you think it will answer your purpose better than the Glass I sent you. I give you the Trouble that was given me of the inclosed to Mr. Brown from his wife Col. Roberts's daughter.

I inclose a Letter to Mr. Wraxall. Both your Hands are full I dare say, & therefore I will not trouble him with a Repitition of what I write to you, which as to News you no doubt communicate to him. I see he is of great assistance to you of w^{ch}. I had not the least doubt. I wish you both your Health & that something or other may recompence the Pains you both take more from publick Spirit, than from any private Advantage that I can see.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: July 22^d. 1755
Banyars letter.

FROM COLDEN & KELLY

[July 22, 1755.¹]

Maj. Gen ^l Johnson			
Bought of Colden [& Kelly]			
600 Lemmon's purchas'd from W ^m .			
Coventry @ 8/.....		[	]
Cash Cooperage & Cartage....		[	]
Aug ^t . 4 th .	4 ⁿ Vermil ⁿ . purchased from John		
	Lansen @ 13/.....	[	]
	17 d ^o ..from Dan ^l . Ebbetts. 13/. 11	[	]
	3 d ^o ..from John Lansen.. 15/. 2	[	]
	232 Box's for Indian paint.....—..	1[	]
	2 Sheepskin Baggs	—.. 4[	]
	1 Box Lemmons	2.. 5[	]
	paid Cap ^t . Switz for bringing		
	packett	—.. 2[	]
	Express with Dispatches for		
	Board of Trade.....	4.—[	]
		£25..16[	]
Ball ^{ce} former acc ^t		812..17[	]
		£838..13[	]

FROM JOHN DIES

A. L. S.

New York, July <y^e 22^d 1755.>S^r

Inclos^d you have R^d. from Capⁿ. Van Schaik for 1 Brass Morter and and one hundred & Eleven Shells, the Shells are Something too Small for the Morter, but if they are fix^d in the Morter

¹ Dated in accordance with the earliest item.

with Earth they^l Do, the Time was too Short otherways Should have had them b<urn^d> and Clean^d. out, for they are very Foule. By Brass¹ you had the Terable and Incredidable ac^t. of the General's Dea<th> and Defeate, but by the Last Express you have that ac^t. Some<thing> Molefied, but this morning we have a Cartain Ac^t. from <phi>ladelphia of the Generals being well and his Artillary Safe. att ten oClock to Day, Mr. Charless Williamses Son ariv^d from <phi>ladelphia, who Says that last Sunday Night att Trent-town he was awake^d by a Croud of people, who Told him that we w<eare> In posession of Fort Ducain To Confirm which, we Impa<tient>ley waite an Express, this morning the Town was full of <the> news, of Adrial Boscowen^s haveing taken Ten men of war more But wants Confirmation and belife here.

if the News of Fort Ducains being in our posession be True, my opinion is, that the General has on purpose Drawn the Fren<ch> Armeiy from their Fort, By which means Sr. John Sinkiraire,² with his Six hundred by a By way, has surpris^d. and Taken the Fort. Though my whole Body Cant My Hart is with you. That Helth and Success May atend you is the Harty Pray<er> and Wish of Sr your Verey Humble Sarvant

JOHN DIES
The Comishner

Be Ware of being
Asassinated By the French Indians.
Give My Harty Respects to Ayer and
Mr Raxel

ADDRESSED: To Major General Johnston att Albany

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: July 22^d. 1755

John Die's letter.

¹ Brasier, express rider.

² St Clair.

TO MYNDERT WEMPEL

A. D. S.

July 22^d 1755

Instructions to M^r. Mynerdt Wemp
for the Senecas & Cajugas

You are to repair to the Senecas Country by the first of August next. to Mend their Arms of Every Kind, their Axes Hows, &^{ca}. in the best Manner You Can.

You are to Send me from time to time all the Intelligence You Can get of any Moment, by Express whom I shall pay. And You are to communicate whatever news I send to them by You distinctly.

You are to use y^r. utmost endeavours to prevent any French Emissaries, either Christian or Indian coming to either of the aforesaid Nations on any pretence whatsoever.

You are not to leave Said place but Work constantly for them two Castles, until the Middle of April next. for which You shall be paid Eighty Pounds this Currency

Given Under my Hand at Mount Johnson this 22^d. Day of July 1755.

W. J.

To M^r. MYNERDT WEMP.

INDORSED: July 22^d. 1755

Instructions to
M^r. Mynerdt Wemp
Smith for y^e. Senecas
& Cajugas

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

<New York 23 July 1755.> 12 oClock.

DEAR SIR

On my return this Morning from a little tour on Horseback I found the News spread contained in the inclosed Copy or Extract

of a Letter from Cha^s. Read¹ Secretary of New Jersey to Governor Belcher, which Copy was sent to our Friend John McEvers from whom I had his and made the inclosed. I observed at Greenwich this Morning a Sloop at Anchor which I take to be Van Schaick's, and have dispatch'd a Messenger on purpose to put this on board of him, for if no Express is sent from Philadelphia to Albany this will probably be the first Account you'll receive of a piece of Intelligence so opposite to the other Accounts brought by Men frightened out of their Wits I wish it may be the prelude to better, <as I> imagine the Superiority of the French <must> mean to the Forces General Braddock *then* had with him, or perhaps only to Sr John's² Party. Pray let me hear from you by every opportunity you can possibly write to Dr. Sr. yours with the greatst. Truth & Sincerity

GW BANYAR

GENERAL JOHNSON

INDORSED BY WRAXALL: Rec^d. 27th J[uly]
Ans^d.

FROM DR PETER MIDDLETON

A. D.

Report of ye. Sick in Con^l. Cockr^{ts}³ Reg^t. July 23^d 1755

in Cap ^t . Halls Company	Nathaniel Dike	Hurt
	Fredrick Chappel	Pass: Illiac
in Cap ^t . Schuylers Comp.	Serg ^t . Brooks	Inf Pluritis
in Cap ^t . Mc.Ginnis Comp:	Daniel McBride	Wounded

INDORSED BY P. WRAXALL: Dr. Middleton's
Report of Sick &c.
in New York Reg^t.
23 July 1755.

¹ Read to Belcher, July 20, 1755, q. v.

² St Clair.

³ Colonel William Cockcroft.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

25 July 1755. 9 oClock A M

DEAR SIR

I shall not detain you till I describe the Concern and amazement we were thrown into yesterday Afternoon about 4, at the Confirmation of the Generals Defeat, it is put beyond all possibility of doubt and the Circumstances tho' true, surpass all belief almost. I inclose you the only account I can as yet get of this Misfortune in an Extract of a Letter from Capt. Rutherford¹ to his Lady, the original of which I have seen & read. We have no Letters from the General and I imagine an Express may have been dispatched to you thro the Land as also to Gen^l Shirley. I cannot give way to the thought that Gen^l Braddock will stop either of your operations. they are both more necessary now than ever, Mr. Shirley's, to Snatch from the French the use they might make of this Victory, which we shall effect by taking & securing that now more than ever important Pass. Yours is still more necessary because our immediate Safety is concerned in it, which is not the Case as to the other: If Crown Point is not secured what are we to expect from the French, but an attack on Albany, they'l not be content with the Amusement of setting their Indians upon us. Go on then Dear Sir and by your Success revive our drooping Spirits. your Sagacity we doubt not will as far as it is possible prevent the terrible effects of an Ambuscade, ever fatal to People subject to Panick, to guard ag^t w^{ch}. I see no other Method than that of having proper advanced and out Parties. these with a strong Body where your Train is may secure this and your Men too against so fatal an Event. Your Intelligen<ce> will I hope let you early into the Strength of the Enemy on that Quarter: I am amazed when I reflect on the Effect this unlook'd for Misfortune may have on our Indians;

¹Rutherford to his wife, July 12, 1755, q. v.

how much care is required to represent it to them, as they must know it. For my own part I think nothing less than your own Weight can prevail with them to stir either Way. I hope General Shirley & you, will act one way in regard to this Point. I hear he has engaged many of them, many Albany People & many Indian Traders. What steps will be taken here I cannot tell, but I suppose a Reinforcement will be sent from all the Colonies. If it be waited for, the French may and probably will strengthen themselves equal to your Reinforcements: No time therefore is to be lost in my humble opinion. Besides the Indians should be engaged if possible before this Disaster spreads itself among them. The Spirit of the Nation in sending out a Fleet so large; its Success, which may be aggravated, if not with truth or propriety, yet from wholesome necessity; our Success to the Eastward, in having reduced all the French have in Nova Scotia; our grand Armaments now on foot and in view of the Indians, the Care of them being in your Hands; and the Power we have now to secure them from the Resentment of the French, which they have before urged as a Reason for their not Assisting us. I say these things (and what your own Penetration will suggest) represented in the Manner peculiar to yourself may yet spirit them up. You'll not hear from the Governor I imagine by this Sloop, as the Council have not yet met. I write his & everybody's Sentiments. I have heard as to both your and Gov^r. Shirley's Proceeding immediately. I believe no body has a Copy sent of the inclosed which ought to be greatly moderated with you for the Publick. I am Dear Sir yours with the greatest affection

GW BANYAR

GENERAL JOHNSON.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: July 25th. 1755
Banyars letter.

WILLIAM SHIRLEY TO ABRAM MORTIER

D. S.

July 25, 1755

By Major General Shir[ley]

You are hereby directed & required out of [such] Monies as are or shall come to your hands [for] the Contingent uses of His Majestys Forces [under] the Command of Major General Braddock [to] Pay unto Major General William Johns[on] the Sum of Three Thousand Pounds Sterling in Dollars at four Shillings & eight Pence without Deduction in account, and for so doing this with the Accquttance of the said Major General Johnson shall be your sufficient Warrant & Discharge. Given under my hand this Twenty fifth Day of July 1755.

W. SHIRLEY

To ABRAM MORTIER Esq^r.

Deputy pay Master at Boston

New England

By His Excellencys Command

W^m. Alexander Sec^{ry}.

INDORSED: Copy of Gen^l. Johnson's Letter
to Mr. Jn^o. Watts with
Gen^l. Shirley's Warrant
upon Deputy Paymas^r.

TO JOHN WATTS

Df.¹

[Albany, July, 1755.]

SIR

Inclosed you have Gen^l. Shirleys Warrant upon Mr. Mortier Deputy Pay Master at Boston to pay me Three Thousand Pounds Sterling in Dollars at 4/8 d each without Deduction.

¹ In handwriting of P. Wraxall.

have endorsed it Blank to be filled up in such manner as you & Mr. Mortier may judge proper. You will please to take the necessary steps to receive this Money with all possible Expedition. It is for carrying on the Service with regard to Indian Affairs by Virtue of a Credit from General Braddock to me on General Shirley, and as I shall have an immediate Occasion for part of the Money I could wish you would send me up a Credit on some punctual Person here for £1000. this Curr^y. on the receipt hereof. I so well know your Character that I make no Doubt you will charge your Commission for Negotiating this Affair upon the most reasonable Footing, my Character is at stake in putting the Crown to as little Exp^{<ence>} as possible & I am willing to trust my Character with yours.

Mess^{rs}. Abthorpe & Byard of y^r City Gov^r. Shirley tells me are Agents for Mr. Mortier & take up the Orders upon him. All those Matters I submit to your prudent Management. I desire you will acknowledge the Receipt hereof by the very first Opportunity.

Part of the Forces are marched for the Carrying Place, Another Division I expect will march in 4 or 5 days. I shall follow with the remainder soon after. If the Melancholly News from <Wills> Creek should prove a false Alarm, I believe <I shall> have a great number of Indians join me over <&> above the 300 provided for or rather partly provided for by the Colonies, <but> if that News prove true I know not what we shall do either in that respect as well as in all others.

The Colonies have in my Opinion acted very unaccountably, in making no Provision for Contingent Charges, If they did not think proper to confide in me, they might have lodged Money where they thought it more Secure. The Money entrusted with me for defraying several charges on the Artillery & the Transportation of it & its Stores will I fear fall short. What Fund shall I have recourse to in these Cases & how will the Service be carried properly on. for my share I am puzzled & Distressed.

I am ready to mortgage my pay, & my Table allowance toward it, but I really do not know how or where to draw even for those Articles.

Please to present my Compliments to the Gov^r. that I returned but last night from Mount Johnson & heard but a little while ago of this Sloop's sailing, the Master of w^{ch}. tells me he goes in an hour, so that I cannot possibly write him by this Opportunity but will soon do it. General Shirley forces so much of my time from me that ever since his arrival from New York my Life has been a scene of hurry & altercation & every Person about me as fully engaged by his means. I hope we have now done & that he will set off from Schenec<tady> tomorrow or Monday Morning. pray tell M^r. O. DeLancey I will also send him my Draught for his Ballance ☞ next Sloop. I am Sir
your very hum <Servt,>

To JOHN WATTS Esq^r¹

☞ Schipper, Sam^l Pryn

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

Saturday Evening 26 July 1755

DEAR SIR

To write on the Subject of bad News, is a m[] disagreeable Task and I know the Reflections which naturally arise to you on this melancholly occasion [] affect you much. However great the uneasiness, [] yet as a good use may be made of others Misfortunes by examining into the Causes, and shunning the Missteps that have brought them upon them, we should industriously enquire after every minute

¹ John Watts, of New York City, was born in 1715 and died in 1789. He was a member of the council from 1758 to 1776, and of the assembly from 1752 to 1759. He had an extensive land estate, which was forfeited at the time of the Revolution.

Circumstance. My intention is to give you this Satisfaction as far as is in my Power, as yet I can say but little, our Accounts not being very full. The Post may give us further advices, and I do not expect to close my Letter till its arrival. Our General is severely censured by some, for being so far before the second Division, not less than 30 or 40 miles, when it is said he promised to keep within 5. For not separating his Men in Parties on the first attack, in order to surround the Enemy, on which it is imagined they would have fled. It is said he was strongly solicited to take th<is> Step by Croghan who we hear was killed, and by Mr. Washington, but he persisted in the old Rule among the Regulars of keeping his Men together, in order too, as is supposed to save his Artillery, but it was the very Reason perhaps why he lost it — had he retreated a little & left it, they could not have carried it off: It is said there were only 300 of the Enemy. I imagine as they were within 9 miles of the Fort the Enemy had lin'd the way up to the Fort intending to harrass our Army till we could come before it, and retreat as fast as we drove them [] possibly may have been their whole de[] have they succeeded to our shame. Whoever doubted []ness of Indians and out Parties to scout before & on each [] merican Expeditions, is now convinced of it by woful Experience [whi]ch is bought at a very dear rate, the Price is the Enemies, and [] should endeavour to make them pay us back what we have pa[] much for it. I abhor a cruel Thought, but Mercy itself in many Cases is Cruelty, and lenity to a few the Destruction of thousands. If we must continue skirmishing with them (for such I account every thing, but the dispossessing them of Mont Real or Quebec) we should deal exactly with them as they do by us, destroy and scalp as they do: They set their Indians to scalping of our poor defenceless Inhabitants, in this the necessity pleads an Excuse for following so inhuman an Example, as the shortest way too perhaps to put an End to such Barbarities. As to Indians as they hunt for you as Beasts to their Pray, they should nev[er] be

entitled to Quarter but where fairly & openly engaged. Nothing will more terrify them, & nothing sooner bring them to Terms, tho it may at first fall the heavier upon us. You will I expect have few Indians to oppose you, Governor Shirley perhaps many. Were I an officer on that Command it would be impossible, if it come in my way, for me to refrain sacrificing some of them to the dreery Manes of our poor Countrymen, many of whom that might have been saved after wounding, I fear the Indian Savages, and pert[icularly] the Canadian Savages have scalped or put to death rather than be at the Pains of relieving them. If it proves the Case, I hope it may animate us to a proper Resentment. I have always understood Ni[agara] to be built on the Edge of the Lake, it looks in Evans's Map to be a pretty way up the River, if this be really the case, and we can build a F[ort] lower down nearer to the Lake in a proper Situation I think it would [] much more prudent to do this before we attack their Fort: All that we ha[ve] to do is to secure a Footing that will command the River at its Entrance & prevent the French returning or passing that Way, or at least as far as any works we build can prevent it. I fear if we proceed to attack their Fort immediately & meet with a Repulse it may prevent us from d[] any thing afterwards: the Enemy may perhaps let us land & wait [] their Fort for us, in confidence we shall attack them. Were it not [easier?] then to avoid this Risque [and] (if [] Place will admit of it) to strengthen ourselves by prop[er] [] immediately, before we think of taking their Fort. You will [] better Judge than I whether this Hint may be of any use [] think it may. I should be glad you'd mention it to Mr. Alexander [] he is not gone.

Is it necessary for you to take [] your Provisions any further than the Carrying Place from whence you go to the South Bay. Suppose for Instance you leave a third part at the first place, another third near the Entrance into the Bay, and carry the other third with you. The Force you leave at these

two places to guard the Provisions or what else you think proper to leave there, will secure your Retreat by throwing up proper Works, and need not be so many as to weaken you, as I believe the Enemy will hardly pass with any great Strength to attack them. Your greatest difficulty will be I imagine to get there, and whatever will facilitate that and not endanger your Success when there, should be followed, & for [th]is Reason perhaps you may find it even necessary to leave some of your heavy Cannon in your way. No time is to be lost, the French, by the Loss of a few days on our part, may double their Strength, & be able by their Numbers to harrass you in your March, or by taking Possession of some Pass stop you from proceeding. No body is a better judge than yourself as to these Matters, what I say is only to put you upon thinking on them, and to enable you to determine sooner by hearing the opinion of others, for even the weak reasoning of many will set a Matter in a clearer point of View, than it might otherwise appear to him who is to determine. I take my leave of you at present wishing I may not have another opportunity of writing to you at Albany till your Return, attended with the Success, which I am Sure you will not fail to deserve, and which I hope nothing will prevent. I will add if the Post brings any thing, & am with my best wishes for every Good that can befall you. Dr. Sir yours &c

GW BANYAR

The Post is arrived it being on Sunday 9 o Clock and has brought to Mr. Colden the Copy of a Letter from Captain Orme aid de Con to the Gen^l. whose Death completes the Blow and renders what might have been recovered [] this Season. I am glad [] going but suppose this account will stop his going in Per[] now Commanding officer. Mr. Colden has saved me the trou[ble] sending you a Copy of Mr. Ormes Letter ¹

¹ Orme's letter with list of killed and wounded is printed in *Minutes of Provincial Council of Pennsylvania* (Harrisburg, 1851), 6:487-92.

and the List of the office[rs Kill]ed & wounded. Our assembly meet Tuesday 5 August. I hope nothing [wi]ll retard you longer. I have not got the Minutes of Council at as the Gov^r. has them, I will send you a Copy if I get them. I wonder [] if the General's Powers devolve on Mr. Shirley, if they do not your Interest will oblige you to be cautious in advancing upon Indian Affairs. Do not unnecessarily expose yourself, if any accident befa[ll] you, I despair of Success. You see by Mr. Ormes Letter Numbers avail nothing, where the Men take a Panick. I am more apprehensive now than ever as to our Success at Niagara. Farewell, w[rite] me a Line in answer to this, by Brasier I received none.

Y^{rs} &c

GW. BANYAR

My Compliments to Mr. Wraxall & Mr Eyre. No News from the Eastward, or further Account of our Fleet.

INDORSED: July 26, 1755
Banyars letter.

FROM WILLIAM COCKCROFT

D. S.

Camp at the Flatts
July 26, 1755

<A Weekly return of Six Compays in the Pay of the Province of Ne>w York

FIT FOR DUTY						SICK						ON COMMAND						DESERTED							
Capt.s	Lieutenants	Serjeants	Corporals	Drummers	Private Men	Captains	Lieutenants	Serjeants	Corporals	Drummers	Private Men	Captains	Lieutenants	Serjeants	Corporals	Drummers	Private Men	Serjeants	Corporals	Drummers	Private Men	Confin'd	Total		
6	11	24	18	6	468	...	...	...	...	...	17	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	1	4	563		

W^m. COCKCROFT.

FROM CHRISTOPHER HARRIS

A. D. S.

In Camp Near Albany July 26th. 1755 on Sat[urday]
 A Weekly Report of my Company Under Coll Harris

Sergants Fit For Duty	Corpls fit For Duty	Drummers fit For Duty	Soldi Soldiers Fit for [Duty]
4	4	2	66
	Test Samuell	Angell	Drawn of by Cap ^t 1 12

A Weakly Report of Liu^t Coll Edrd Coles Company 1 L^t 1
 Ensig, 4 Serg^s, 4 Corp^{ls}, 2 Drum^{rs} 82 Cent^{ls}, Sick 0, Dead 0
 Desert^d 2, Discharged 1 in all 97

Draft^d out for the Train, 1 Ensign 13 Cent^l 1 Corp^{el}. 97
 15

Remans 82

A True Report from Saturday July 26th. 1755

Exam^d ☞ Geo Gardner L^t.

A Weakley Report of Cap^t Abraham Frances Company
 1 Cap^t 1 Lieut. 1 Ensign 4 Sergants 2 Drummers 34 Centinls
 Sick D[eat]

Dafted into the Train Four Remaining in all 43 all Fitt for
 Servis

Saturday July 26 1755 a True

Report of the State of my Company Examined

☞ Abraham Frances Cap^t.

A Weekly Report of Cap^t Henery Babcooks Company 1
 Cap^t 1 Lieut 1 Ensign 4 Sarg^t 4 Corp^{ll} Sick 0 Deserted 1 Dead 0
 fit for Deauty 85

A True Report of the Whole Exam^d ☞

CHRISTO HARRIS Coll.

Saturd July the 26:1755 at the Camp.

INDORSED BY P. WRAXALL: Weekly Return of the
 Rhode Island Reg^t.

26 July 1755.



W^m Alexander.

(Afterwards "Lord Stirling")

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY

L. S.

Schenectady July <26th 1755.>

<SIR>

I think it necessary for his Majesty's Ser<vice> to Send you the following Instructions, in addition to th<ose> which I transmitted to you with your Commission; vizt:

In Case you should meet with Such Difficulties in the Expedition now under your Command against the Incroachments of the French at Crown point, and upon Lake Champlain, from a Superior Force of the Enemy, as shall oblige you to quit the Attempt, You are to make your Retreat with the Army to the City of Albany, there to remain with it, for the Defence and Protection of that place; as also to cover the whole Province of New York against any Attack of the French and Indians from Canada, untill you shall receive further Orders: You are also to take all Opportunities of acquainting me at Oswego or elsewhere with your Proceedings in the aforesaid Expedition.

W SHIRLEY

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Gov^r. Shirleys Instructions
from Schenectady

FROM ARENT STEVENS

A. L. S.

Schonectady 26th. July 1755

SIR

I think it my duty to Acquaint you that Col: Lydius has sent a String of Waumpum to the Mohawks with Cap^m. Van Schaick, Blicher and Aaron the Indian and Martinius Lydius, and am Informed that M^r. John Visger is Engaged by M^r. Alexander to get as many Ind^{ns}: as Possible to go with them and sets out

this day for the Purpose I find I am Suspected, therefore Believe if Mr. Claus was at Canojohary it would a good deal Pervert their Intentions there.

I am Sir wishing you all Success

Your Most humble: Serv^t.

ARENT STEVENS

ADDRESSED: To the Hon^{ble}

Major General W^m. Johnson
at Albany

INDORSED BY P. WRAXALL: Arent Stevens' Letter to Gen^l Johnson concerning Col Lydius & Mr. Alexander with regard to Indians.

FROM MOSES TITCOMB

D. S.

26 July 1755

Weekly Role of the Regement Under the Command of Coll.
Titcomb

Fitt for Duty						Sick						Desarted				Totall
Capt's.	Leuts.	Sargts.	Corpls	Drumers	Privete	Capt's.	Leuts.	Sargts	Corpls.	Drumers	Privete	Sargts.	Corpls.	Drumers	Private	
8	16	37	32	10	233	2	3	1	2	0	35	0	0	0	0	433

Fifty four Carpentors at work

MOSES TITCOMB

INDORSED BY P. WRAXALL: Weekly Return of
Col. Tidcombs Reg^t
26 July 1755.

FROM MOSES TITCOMB¹ AND EPHRAIM WILLIAMS²

D. S.

Albany July 26th 1755

To the Hon^{ble}. William Johnson Esq^r. Maj^r. Gen^l. and Commander of the forces Rais^d. for An Expedition to Crown poynt, Humbly Sheweth

That Great Unesiness have arisen Among the Troops Rais^d. by the Province of the Massachusetts Bay Respecting there

¹ Colonel Moses, youngest son of William and Ann (Cottle) Titcomb, was born June 19, 1700. . . . Colonel Moses was at the siege of Louisburg as major of a regiment under General Pepperrell. Upon his return from Louisburg, he was commissioned colonel of a regiment that was in the Battle of Lake George, where he was killed, September 8, 1755.—Sarah Elizabeth Titcomb, *Early New England People*, p. 181. See John J. Currier, *History of Newbury, Mass.*, p. 235.

² Ephraim Williams was born March 7, 1714 at Newton, Mass., and was the son of Ephraim Williams. In 1739 the elder Ephraim removed to Stockbridge, where he attained prominence and held office. The younger, after the death of his mother in 1718, was taken into the home of his grandfather, Abraham Jackson, by whom he was brought up and educated. For several years young Williams was a sailor, and visited several European countries. Quitting the sea, he settled at Stockbridge, which he represented in the general court at Boston in 1744. In 1745, with the title of captain, he was placed in command of three frontier forts, with headquarters at Fort Shirley, in the town of Heath. He continued in military employment after the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, becoming major in 1753, assuming command of Fort Massachusetts the following year, and March 29, 1755 he was commissioned colonel of one of the Massachusetts regiments enlisted for the Crown Point expedition. His death occurred at the beginning of the morning engagement of September 8th. At Albany, July 22d, when on his way to Lake George, Ephraim Williams made the will in which he made a bequest for the establishment of free school instruction in what became the town of Williamstown. This school was the germ of Williams College. See A. L. Perry, *Origins in Williamstown*, p. 215-371; James A. Holden, *Colonel Ephraim Williams*, in *Proceedings of the Second Annual Meeting of the New York State Historical Association*, p. 42-53; Calvin Durfee, *A History of Williams College*, p. 31-53; Leverett W. Spring, *History of Williams College*, p. 4; and *Massachusetts Historical Collections*, 8:47.

Allowance of Provisions, the Gen^l. Assembly of said Province, Did at there Sessions in March Last, Make an Establishment for one Commisary to Each of there Three Rigements, The Gentlemen were appoynted, and Now here with there Warrants to act in the afores^d. Capasity, But are at Present Altogether Usless, By Reason of the Provisions Being all Consign^d. to Commisary Gen^l. Emerson By the Hon^{ble}. Committe of War in Boston, who Deney's Delivering any of the Provisions to the afores^d. Commisareys But to the Troops only.

Your Petitioners Humbly Pray that y^r Hon^r. would be Pleas^d. to Give your order to M^r. Commissary Emerson to Deliver the Province Provision to Each of the afores^d Commisareys (they giving him a Receipt for the Same) to be Delivered out Dayly to the Troops agreeable to the Act of the Assembly afores^d, that the Troops may have there Proper Allowance Seasonably, & with out Wast; Which will Prevent the Complaints y^r Hon^{rs}. Petitionrs Dayly Labour Under from the said Troops in that Respect. Which if in your Hon^{rs}. Great Wisdom would be Pleas^d. to Grant will Much oblige your Most Hum^{ble}. & Most Obed^t. Sarv^{ts}

MOSES TITCOMB

EPH: WILLIAMS

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: The Complaint of
Coll^l. Titcomb & Williams
July 26th. 1755

FROM NATHAN WHITING

D. S.

July 26 1755

A Weekly report of Col Elizur Goodrichs Regiment

fit for Duty						Sick				Deserted				Total
Capt	Lieut	Serjts	Corporals	drummer	private	Serjts	Corporals	drummer	private	Serjt	Corporal	drummer	private	
3	12	24	24	6	394				4				14	470

Saturday July 26 1755

A True Report of Col Goodrichs Regiment

Teste

NATHAN WHITING Lieut Col

INDORSED BY P. WRAXALL: Weekly Return of Col.
Goodrich's Regt
26 July 1755

TO ELIZUR GOODRICH

Df.¹

Albany 27 July 1755.

SIR

I desire that you will with all possible dispatch remove from your present Encampment with the Soldiers under your Command to the Camp at the Flatts. I am Sir Your hum Serv^t

To COLONEL ELIZER GOODRICH

¹In handwriting of P. Wraxall.

TO PHINEAS LYMAN

*Df.*¹*Albany 27 July 1755*

SIR

I am favoured with yours of the 25th. & 26 July.

As to your Proceedings with regard to the Roads, tho I do not apprehend we are in danger of any attack of Consequence between this & the Carry<ing> Place, yet I think with you that a shelter for the Enemy should be as much as possible avoided. however a good roomly Waggon Road is absolutely necessary, and that Bridges be made & repaired. All other particulars I leave to your discretion & good Mannagment. I have ordered a party of Indians with a white officer to join you at the Carrying Place & am therefore very desirous you should be there as soon as possible consistent with the Duty you are upon; but lest these Indians should not find you arrived there, I am now sending off an Express to order them to come to Saraghtoga. I desire & doubt not but you will treat them with due & cautious kindness, & please to let them have Provisions w^{ch} I will replace you keeping an Acc^t. of the same, as also the same Allowance of Rum as the Soldiers, w^{ch} I suppose is a Gill Morning & Evening, More I think would be detrimental to the Service unless upon extraordinary Occasions & ought not to be allowed. You must be extreemly Cautious & take care your Orders are strictly put in Execution that the Indians do not get more Rum than their Allowance. Sober they are easily mannaged, but if Drunk they will give you infinite trouble & it may be of fatal Consequence.

You sent me no general Returns of the Troops under your Command according to my Instructions.

You are quite right to be in constant preparation against any Attack from the Enemy, tho it may not happen it will enure the Soldiers to that cautious readiness w^{ch} is most essential to our preservation & Success.

¹ In handwriting of P. Wraxall.

A General Court Martial cannot be held till I join you, all Punishment but Death can be inflicted by a Regimental Court Martial, whose Sentence you must approve & order punishm^t. w^{ch} should be strictly executed & that in the most public Manner to inspire Fear & Shame. The Crimes of y^r. Prisoners are Death by the Articles of War, but if any softening Circumstances can be found to spare them I would wish it, a severe Punishment they must not escape. I would shew Lenity as far as our safety & Success will permit, but however ungrateful it may be to me, I am Detirmined the essential Points of Military Duty shall be observed both by officers & Men & I will exert the Authority entrusted to me against Criminals impartialy & resolutely.

There are Reports about General Braddock's Troops & Not favorable Ones, but I recd yesterday Letters from New York, w^{ch} tell me they look upon these Reports as False, Treacherous & Groundless.

As to bad Women following or being harboured in our Camp I shall discountenance it to the utmost of my Power. As to Men's Wives while they behave Decently they are suffered in all Camps & thought necessary to Wash & mend. Immoralities of all kinds I will use my utmost power to suppress & chastize. I hope we shall not soil the Justice of our Cause with a Conduct rebellious against that Al<mighty> Power upon whose Favour depends the Success of all human Enterprises.

I hope in a very few Days another Division of about a thousand Men will march after yours with a great part of the Artillery its Stores &c. I am hurrying as much as possible. I am Sir Your most hum Serv^t

<To MAJOR> GENERAL LYMAN.

INDORSED BY WRAXALL: To Maj^r Gen^l Lyman
27 July 1755

FROM ARENT STEVENS

A. L. S.

Schonectady 27th. July [1755]

SIR

I thought it proper to Acquaint you what Col. Ly[] says with regard to the Indians. Notwithstanding, we have [] all we could privately, to get all the Indians to Join you, [] the Crown Point, he is Certain the tribe of the Turtle of the Mohawk Castles, and as many of the upper Nations of Ind^s will Join General Shirley, as will Join you, I told him he has been Misinformed for you Compel no Indians but left them to their own Choice Part to go with the Gov^r: and part with you but *I did not Doubt but they would use their Endeavours to draw off as many Indians as Possible, as they have Employed all those People both at Albany and Schonectady which they think has any Interest with Indians,*¹ he answer'd me Atterwana had Promised the Gov^r. in Albany, and he was informed we turned him, I asked him who was Interpreter for the Gov^r. with that Indian, he said Cap^m Celick, I answer'd him, he might make as great a Mistake in the Cajoga Tongue now, as he [] Last Year at the treaty with Gov^r. Delancey; I am Affraid John Visger will have a great Sway with Otterwana son in law as he is his Perticular mate, which if he should Pervail with him will I fear turn many Onendagahs, I shall take care to Observe the Message you sent me by Nicholas. This my Opinion if a letter was sent by a Indⁿ. to Cap^t. Stoddert and Jonathan, to enable them, it might have good Effect, as I hear money is not wanting on the other Side; this Indian the beaver, tels me his Castle will send but few Indians to Join you, for which reason I have sent him to you to receive your Commands, and told him I am Sure you will satisfie him for his Trouble; the Church was Surrounded this Morning with a Party of Soldiers

¹ Words in italics are underlined in manuscript.

to Assist the Constables in Pressing all the young men to Transport the troupes to Neiagra. I am with the Utmost respect Sir

Your Most Obedient hum^{ble}. Sev^t.

ARENT STEVENS.

INDORSED BY P. WRAXALL: Arent Stevens's Letter ab^t
Gov^r. Shirleys Agents with
the Indians Schenectady

27 July, 1755

Recd d^o. Ans^d.

FROM MATTHEW FERRALL

A. L. S.

Mount Johnson, July y^e. 28th. 1755.

SIR

Yesterday I went Over to the Mowhawk Castle in C<ompany> with Captin & Liu^t Butler & Liu^t Claus. When we Came <their> we were tould that the Conajouharey Indians were at Clements and was to be their that night in Order to have a Frolick & as they Cou'd get know beer from Funda, Ins<isted> I Shou'd give them money in the Place of it which I did. they then said they had know mate and said Farther th<at> you had given fiveteen Dollars to the Conajohareys for <their> Frolick so that they Insisted that as their was a great <many> Conajohareys Come down that I shoud bey them 2. Sheep & 2 hogs which Captin Butler advised me to bey which I did, they also desired we Shou'd all Come over to the dance that <night> we promised we wou'd *Uppon our Return home, we met Mr. Stevens who tould hus that Lydis and Fisher with the Matter of Twenty more was Comeing to the Castle in order to hinder the Indians to go to Crown point,*¹ and advised hus to turn Back again which Captin Butler & <he> did I return home but was Back again in an hours time and Staid there all night and danced the

¹ Words in italics are underlined in the manuscript.

war dance when Arren made me sit down and put hot Ashes
 uppon my head *Ludis*¹ and his Party did all in their Power
 Both by money and Intreaties for them to go along with them
 but Cant get one but the five they had at first Little Abraham
 and Thomas Desired them Sever'll times not to Speak to their
 men for the Shou'd have know more and what they got they said
 was but women for if they thought they were men they shou'd
 not have them I believe their will go <in> this Party about
 Thirty they all seem harty in your <Cause they wont take>
 the Guns they are all for Money

<I beg you may Send> up the Re<main>der of the
 Gorgets, <the famely is all well.> all the people here abouts is
² in my Love to <Mrs. Ferrall> and Complements to
 Captin Raxwel. I am Sr. your <Ever> Loveing Brother in
 Law Whilst

MATT^w FERRALL

<P:> S: Sr Mr Allexander Prest Jemmey and Wat Uppon
 their return home they tould him they were your Servants and
 was to go to Crown point along with you he said he did not Care
 for you yourself must go where some ever Govenor Shirley orders
 you they brought them before Govenour Shirley who order'd
 Jemmey in to one of the Battows he went in her for about a mile
 and then run a way from her home Inclosed is a Copy of what
 Lydis and Fisher said Yesterday before Severll of the Neigh-
 bours & Indian of the Mowhawk Castle Yesterday

ADDRESSED: To The Hono^{ble} Major General Johnson
 at Albany
 On his Majestys Service

INDORSED BY P. WRAXALL: July 28th 1755
 Captⁿ. Ferralls letter
 Concerning Lyddiu's
 Behaviour at y^e. Mohawks

¹ Lydius.

² Illegible.

GENERAL ORDERS¹

A. D. S.

Head Quarters Albany 28 July 1755.

Parole Bradd<ock>

Orders.

That all officers without leave from the General, do immediately repair to their respec<tive> Regiments at the Camp at the Flatts & remain there in their Posts & that none do absent themselves without having first acquainted the Commanding officer there & having his Liberty for the same. And when any come to this City that they wait upon the General.

That no more than One Gill of Rum P day for each Man be issued by any Regiment or Company & half of that in the morning & half in the Evening. And whoever presumes to make any Disturbance in consequence of this Order, be immediately put in Confinement, and if tending to mutiny or Desertion to be tried by a General Court Martial.

That no Person presume to sell any kind of Liquor in or about the Camp without leave first obtained from the officer of the Day & that if any Rum or Spirituous Liquors be brought for sale that any Commission officer do immediately destroy & waste the same, and that notice be given to any tippling Houses near the Camp who may be suspected of selling the Soldiers those Liquors, that upon being detected, an officer & Men shall be sent to stave all their Rum or Spirituous Liquors, & the same to be put in Execution.

That the Colonel of each Reg^t. cause a strict Inspection to be made into the Arms & Accoutrements of the Men under his Command & make a return of the same to me as soon as possible.

That a Field officer for the Day be upon Duty as in the late Camp, near Green Bush, beginning with the Senior officer.

That Col. Moses Titcomb with the Reg^t. under his Command Colonel Elizer Goodrich with the Regiment under his Command,

¹ A. D. S. of P. Wraxall.

and Col. Ep^m. Williams with the remaining part of his Regiment do hold themselves in readiness to receive marching Orders.

That an Adjutant be sent from the Camp to be at Head Quarters by 10 oClock every Morning, to bring with him the Report of the Field Officer of the preceeding Day, & to receive the Daily Orders for the Camp.

That these Aforesaid Orders be communicated to all officers either in the Camp or at this City with all possible Speed.

By the Generals Command

PETER WRAXALL, Aid de Camp

INDORSED: Orders to the Camps
28 July 1755.

FROM JOHN DE PEYSTER

A. D. S.

Albany y^e 29 July 1755

An Acc^t. of what provision Gen^l. Johnson hath had out of the
New York Stors. Viz

July 21	4 barr ^l pork
	4 barr ^l beef
	12 Barr ^l bread w ^t N ^t . 9 ^{ct} .. 0 ^{qr} .. 21 ^{fl}
D ^o . 28	4 parr ^l pork
	6 Barr ^l bread w ^t N ^t . 4 .. 2 .. 15

C 13 .. 3 .. 8 N^t

Your Humb^l Sarv^t

JN^o DE PEYSTER

TO WILLIAM EYRE

*Df.*¹

Head Quarters, Albany 29 July 1755

Tuesday

You are to have in readiness the Two 32 pounders, Two 18 pounders, Two 12 pounders Four Iron 6 pounders of the Train of Artillery under your directino with their Proportion of Amunition stores, with the Deputy Commissary of the Stores Two Lieut^s. & Twenty eight men of the Artillery Company Cap^t. Webster & 30 Carpenters under him to march with the Divisions of y^e Troops under the Command of Col. Moses Titcomb on next Saturday

TO CAP^T EYRE

Chief Engineer & Director
of the Train of Artillery

INDORSED: Orders to Cap^t. Eyre
chief Eng^r. & Direct^r of
Artillery to get Artillery &c.
ready for 2^d. Division

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Df.*¹

Albany 29 July, 1755

SIR

It is with the utmost Concern that I send your Excellency the Acc^t herewith. Tis an Extract from a Letter² of Capt Rutherfuds to his Wife at New York, taken from thence & sent me by the Deputy Secretary at New York & w^{ch} he tells me must be depended on.

¹ In handwriting of P. Wraxall.

² July 12, 1755, q. v.

If the Expedition under my Comand is to go forwards, I must have Indians or I can promise myself no Success but the reverse. In the present Sittuation of Affairs, it appears to me of the last Importance that the Managment of our Affairs with the Indians should be conducted with the utmost harmony & in the most uniform manner. The Proceedings w^{ch} have lately taken place & are asserted to have Your Excellency's Countenance have given me a great deal of Concern, as I am persuaded they tended to distract & hurt the common Interest, & will undoubtedly if persevered in be of fatal Consequence & defeat the very Ends proposed.

I am of Opinion that an Attack upon Niag<ara> & securing that important Pass is now more than ever necessary, & that no Delay be suffered w^{ch} can possibly be avoided. [*I shall most readily concur with the whole weight of my Indian Interest to forward & promote that Service w^{ch}.*¹] I continue to think does not require the assistance of any considerable Number of Indians as the Operations will be chiefly conducted by Water.

And I make no doubt Your Excellency would have found in & about Oswego as many Indians ready to help you as would be really necessary, whether it will be so now, as the news I fear is got that way by this time, is doubtful. Without Indians tis in vain to expect Success from our Expedition. And how they will behave in general under the present Circumstances, I cannot pret<end> to ascertain. I pray God assist & direct your Excellencys Detirminations & am Sir Your Excellencys Obed^t hum Serv^t.

To His Excellency MAJ^R. GEN^L SHIRLEY &c.

INDORSED BY WRAXALL:

<Gen. Johnsons Letter> to Gen^l Shirley Albany 29 July 1755.

¹ Words in italics and within brackets are erased in original manuscript.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L.

New York 30th. July 1755

DEAR SIR

My last was to have covered a Copy of Capt: Or<me's> Letter & the List of the kill'd & wounded, but this you had from Mr. Colden who sav'd me the Trouble. Our defeat appears to have been owing to the Cowardice of our Men, occasioned as Mr. Orme tells our Governor, by the Novelty and great Execution of the Enemy's fire which struck such a panick into them, that proved fatal. In all cases of that Nature it appears most reasonable to make a Retreat, for what can be expected from Men while the Fright is upon them. If they retreat they soon recover their Reason, & may be brought to charge again after being harrangu'd properly by their officers. A Panick is much more dangerous to a Body of Men than the Enemy's Fire would be if they push'd on. Men ought to know the manner in which they may expect to be attack'd, and the Means they should use for their Defence, and this should be told them more than once and *that* when they have their senses abt. them, before they are attack'd. Gen: Braddock sent 200 & 300 before the main Body, this may have been right, but for what yet appears they were attack'd unexpectedly & therefore gave Way & put the whole into Disorder, this could not have happened if a good look out had been kept at some distance from the Main Body, who must have discovered the Enemy, & consequently would have retired & prepared the others. However I profess to know very little of such Matters. The Enemy it's supposed had taken Possession of this Spot & intrenched, determined to make a Stand here; which it was very natural to Expect, whether we apprehended it or not I cant tell, I believe not. It's past, and not now to be recall'd, but our Honour may be retrieved, and I hope it will in the operations under yours & Gen Shirley's Directions. I fancy as indeed I have always done, that our Indians when sent to

Crown Point are stopt by the Cachnewagis or other Indians, & usually return without their Errand: We know nothing of what they are doing there. I hope you do. I believe the chief opposition you will meet with will be before you reach the Fort. When you are there, it is possible I believe to prevent Succours, if the Enemy are not too strong without. It will be recommended to the Assembly to reinforce you, but it must be late. Mr. Shirley recommends that we raise 300 Men, & says he has wrote to his & Conn^t. Gov^t. each to raise 500 Men to attack the French Settlements on the River Chaudiere, & to make a Feint as if they intended for Quebec. This appears to me, like sending Succours to you from Niagara, both Expeditions will be over before this Scheme can have any Effect. Perhaps it is to prevent our Expectations of Reinforcements from his own Government, who were to have sent 500 & Connecticut the same, if wanted to support you. I hear this afternoon Philadelphia have voted £50,000, intended for 'tother push I imagine, but it's well if it is not upon Terms that Gov. Morris will refuse his assent. In such a Case nothing I think but an Instruction from a Power more than Mortal would prevail with me to refuse my assent. And 'tis madness I think to imagine the Crown means to restrain a Governor in Cases, where the necessity must authorize the Breach of any Instruction, if the people are so unreasonable as to put it on that footing. I hope Mr. Morris will secure the Money, that Virg^a & Maryland will follow the Example, & that another attempt may be soon made. Commodore Keppel¹ is by this time saild for England, with the Intelligence from Virginia. Our Fleet are returned to Halifax without further Success, & very sickly. Holburne I believe is out, as there's only 14 sail at Halifax. I am at a loss to know what they will do to the Southward for Mortars & Shells if they propose a second attempt. Those you have can hardly be sent back time enough if you take

¹ Augustus Keppel, who became rear admiral in 1762 and commander in chief of the fleet in 1778. In 1782 he was created Viscount Keppel.

the Fort. They must I believe send to Nova Scotia. I see by the Act of which I sent you a Copy there's £5 ^{per} Month allowed to an Armourer, I don't know that the Governor has appointed any. Such a person is necessary. I cant learn that Major Gen. Lyman has any Indians with him and I heard that you were to send the Indians to Crown Point to observe, & bring accounts. I suppose a number will go with every Division of the Army. If you can write me three lines let them inform me what Number of Forces you carry with you, & what number of Indians & what Intelligence you have of the Enem<y.>

31st July: Yesterday afternoon the Phila Post came in By <which> we learn all the Generals Papers were taken. That our <Army> arrived at Wills Creek the 21st. and a finer Army Capt. Rutherford says you shall not see in America notwithstanding all that has happened. I perceive he is much chagrin'd and is under apprehension that our 2 Ind^t. Comp^s will be left to Garison Fort Cumberland when the Reg^{ts}. & other Companies go into Quarters. this would be a Mortification indeed. The Pensilvania Assembly have voted that Sum but the Act is not passed. The General liv'd to see the immense destruction of Powder Shells, Balls, made Cartridges & Provisions, on his Return to the Camp so that I suppose this notable piece of Business was by his direction too. 1500 fine Fellows (at least) afraid of being harrassed in their March by a few Indians, & frightened into the destruction of what in this Country they should have deemed of equal value with their lives. What shall we not come to? Farwell & guard ag^t. the ambuscades of the Enemy if possible, from whence only we are under any great apprehensions.

INDORSED BY P. WRAXALL: July 30th 1755
Banyars Letter

TO JAMES DE LANCEY

Df.¹

Albany 30 July 1755

SIR

From the time I had the honour of writing you <last> I have been so very much engaged in settling various Points relative to the Crown Point Expedition with General Shirley, & obliged to go up to Mount Johnson to meet & fit out Parties of Indians, these joined to the duties of my Command of the Provincial Forces, have not left me sufficient time either for Meals or for Sleep & have hurt my health for I am very far from being well. Every Body about me have been as constantly engaged as myself. I hope therefore Sir you will do me the Justice to think my Silence has been the result of Necessity not of Choice.

I have already wrote you in a general way the Disposition & Resolutions of the Indians in consequence of the late Meeting at my House. I confirm the same but it has been impossible to get a Copy of my Proceedings at that Meeting drawn out & sent you, and indeed I do not know how or when I shall be able to get it done. Mr. Wraxall who acts as my Secretary & Aid de Camp & whom I cannot give up to any other Service, has his hands full from Morning to night, & except Quick Meals & a few hours for Sleep is perpetually writing. One of my People acts as a Clerk under him & has his full Employment.

I transmitted to poor General Braddock a Copy of my Indian Proceedings & I now transmit another to the Board of Trade. These could not be delayed & they take up a great deal of writing.

Besides all these Matters Mr. Shirleys Proceedings with regard to the Indians have been so unexpected & Extraordinary, he has brought a new Scene of trouble, Employment & vexation upon me & thrown the Indians into the utmost Confusion. Lydius is

¹ In handwriting of P. Wraxall.

his Indian Premier, and <under> him are a Number of Agents, working with Money and by every kind of Artifice to destroy my Influence, to overset the Measures agreed upon at our Meeting & to turn the Indians from the Crown Point to the Niagara Expedition. To Oppose these Pernicious Schemes, & to support the Authority devolved upon me & what appeared to my best Judgment the true general Interest I had fallen upon such Measures (tho with an Additional Expence & fresh Trouble, w^{ch}. might otherwise have been saved) as would I am persuaded have secured a considerable Number of Indians for the Crown Point Expedition, tho not as many as I should have had & were in my Opinion absolutely necessary. But my good Sir the fatal News you sent me in y^r fav^r. of the 25 Inst & is just now Confirmed to me & increased in its dreadful Malignity wth. a certainty of General Braddock's Death by Intelligence & a List of some of the Slain & wounded, from Cap^t. Orme, will render all these ill judged Oppositions to me with regard to Indian Affairs of little Consequence one way or another. This astonishing & most Tragical Event puts it out I am affr<aid> of all our Powers by any means whatsoever to prevail on the Indians to join us, nay I very much fear their self Preservation may influence the greatest part of them to join our Enemies against us. This is the great Evil I fear and the worst side of the Picture. I make no doubt the French have sent their Emissaries with Trophies & Agravated Acc^{ts}. of our Defeat to our Indians & that these are already arrived amongst the upper Nations.

If the Crown Point Expedition must be stopped & unless we get Indians to Assist us I think it would be madness to Attempt it as we now are, the best Measures w^{ch} in that case Occur to me are that I should go thro all the Nations or try to get <some> of their most leading Men to meet me at Onondag<a,> lay Matters before them, use all the Arguments <&> Influence I am master of to prevent the Dissoluti<on> of our Indian Connexions. That all possible assis<tance> be given to Dispatch the remaining part of Gen^l. Shirleys Troops & necessary Stores

to Oswego. If the numbers there be thought suff^t (I think they are) that they be ordered immediately to Attack Cadaraqui & either totally demolish it or take post there, if they succeed. The navigation of Lake Ontario Secured & when all the Forces & their Military Stores are arrived & compleated to make an Attempt upon Niagara. That Gen^l. Lyman who I hope will be in a day or two at the Carrying place be reinforced with some Artillery & the Engineer go up & Fortify that Pass in the Strongest Manner. That the rest of the Troops be kept in their present Encamp^{<ment>} to cover this City & sustain the Troops at the Carry^{<ing>} Place. These are the Operations w^{ch} in the present hurry of my Spirits & this Melancholly view of things appear to me in general as the most eligible System of Conduct for us this Way.

And further that all the Neighbouring Colonies should without delay call a Grand Council to deliberate upon the present Sittuation of affairs & with a becoming & necessary Fortitude rise up & act like true Patriots at this trying Crisis.

May God inspire us all with heads & with Hearts for our own Preservation, for our Honour for everything that Men ought to hold dear. Dejection, Amazement & a frozen inactivity will ^{<bri>}ng on us the last & worst of all Evils, namely to perish Infamously. The French and their Indians will undoubtedly surround our Borders & first necessary step is to be prepared to Defend our Country & when Matters can be more maturely planned with one united Spirit to carry Desolation & Destruction thro every Quarter of the Enemy where we can come at them & by every Method in our Power.

God Almighty direct our Councils & most abundantly inspire us, with unshaken Magnanimity & Resolutions equal to the present important Call upon us. Let us not perish like Slaves, like Wretches insensible to all the distinguishing Virtues of humanity. Let us take another & a more cheerful View of things.

When I was up at My house last I dispatc^{<hed>} the Indian officers amongst the Several upper Nations with marching Orders to set out with all possible Dispa^{<tch>} & meet me at the Carry-

ing Place. The Two Moho<ck> Castles except 5 Scoundrels whom Gov^r. Shirleys Agents had debauched promised me they would join me to a Man. I sent to the Acquawgas & Two chief Mohock Indians to the Westenhack & some River Indians to come. I expect several parties are already on their way to join Gen^l. Lyman at Seraghtoge if he should not be got to the Carry-ing place.

I have now some of the most leading Men of three upper Nations with me to whom I have communicated our Misfortune at the Ohio pretty nearly in its true Light. they assure me they will stand by their Engagments & <I am now> fitting them out with Arms &c. I cannot but flatter myself, if Gov^r. Shirleys Proceedings <who> will not be controuled by my reasonings, do<es not> throw things into confusion, but that the India<ns> will for the most part stand by us. If this be <the> Case w^{ch} I shall know in a few Days I hope to God the Crown Point Expedition will be pushed on with Alacrity & supported in every Shape. In the mean time I shall go on with the intended Plan. I have given Orders for the heavy Artillery & about 1100 Men more to march next Saturday, & I hope to follow with the last Division about this Day Sennight. I hope to inspire our Troops with a laudible Spirit of revenge. I believe they are in General Brave tho not regular, If the Indians stand by us & God bless our Endeavours, I hope we shall raise Laurells that will over shaddow our Cypress.

I propose to send the Indian Records to Mr. Banyar as Deputy Secretary for the Province to be delivered on Demand to the Secretary for Indian Affairs, when a Copy or Copies may <be> taken from them.

Inclosed I send Your Honour My order for Payment of Monies to the Sundry Persons mentioned therein by the Treasurer for all w^{ch} I beg y^r. Honour will sign a Warrant without delay
I am Sir

INDORSED: Gen^l. Johnson's Letter
to Gov^r DeLancey
Albany 30 July 1755.

TO WILLIAM KEMP

L. S.¹*Albany July 30th. 1755*

SIR

The Bearer hereof Patrick Flood tells me that upon Application made to You for redress in some affair, wherein he thought him self Aggrieved You were pleased to say he should bring You a Character I have known the Man these Sixteen years past and cant Say I ever knew him guilty of any Villany. To the contrary, while he lived with me he behaved well and honest. Thus much, (if it can be of any Service to him) I thought incumbent on me to say for him.

I am Sir With much Esteem

Your Most Hum^l Serv^tW^m JOHNSON

To ²KEMP Esq^r.
Attorney General

ADDRESSED: To W^m. Kemp Esq^r.
Attor^y. Gener^l.
In New York

INDORSED: Letter from Major General
Johnson: July 30th. 1755

¹ In New York Historical Society.

² Omission in manuscript.

FROM RICHARD SMITH

A. D. S.

Albany July ye. [30 1755]

Invoice of Military Stores recei[ved] [] Persons now in
my custody. on Acct[] General Johnson Esq^r.

Gun Powder

Stored in Block house N^o. 2 on Major
General Johnson^s. private Acct 10 halfe []
Marckt R^s B

July-19- from On board a schooner Jn^o. Hawkins Master
Stored in Block house N^o. 2 Whole Barrels []
22. from on board ye sloop Diamond Joshua Titcum
Block house N^o. 2 Whole Barrels 10 []

Reced of Moses Emerson

23. Stored in Block house N^o. 2 Whole Barrels 82 []
[] Albany Sloop Vantor Mas[ter] []
[]
Stored in Block house N^o. 6 Whol Barrels [29 ?]
from Mess^{rs}. Schuyler & Depeyster
Stored in Block house N^o. 6- Whole Barrels 2[]
Total powder Reced 36[]

Sundry other Stores from Moses Emerso[n]

Axes 584
Shovels 419
Cartridge paper 12 Ream
Painted Polins 50
Ship Skins 24
Budge Barrels 18
I Cask Spades.

¹ Line or lines missing.

Pick Axes 50
 1 coil & part of a coil cordige
 29 Bags Bullets

carried ove[r]

Reced from Moses Emerson Comisry.

Continued

[] Iron Spades

[] Iron crows

40 Pick Axes Without handls

106 handle Spades

1 Doz trowels

1 Adze

6 cross cut Sawes

Sundry Military Stores now in y^e Costody of
 Mess^{rs}. Schuyler & Depeyster ready to be delivered
 when called for.

400 cannon Ball for.....32 Pounders

500 D^o.....18

400 D^o.....D^o.....12

400D^o..... 6....D^o.

30 Rammers & sponge Staffs With rammer heads

2 gunners Mallets

4 formers Sised

[

3 Spare rammer heads

4 D^o. for sponges

7 copper ladles Sised

3 casks nails 12^d. 20^d. & 24^d.

1 Smaller D^o. Spikes & 30^d. nails

6 Catridge boxes

21 crabb handspikes

1 Barrell tallow

5 hundred Wgt of Iron

¹ Line or lines missing here.

- 50 handles for pick Axes 2 Bouge Barles
- 7 Boxes Grape Shott from N^o. 1 to 7
- 3 loose charges D^o.
- 1 Box N^o. 8 With Patridge Shott in tea cases
- 75 Setting Poles
- 29 Shott padles
- [] 4 common padles

Box N^o. 1

- [] tin Powder measure for 32 pounders
- D^o. 18
- [] 12
- [] 6

[co]ntinued

- [] ¹
- 1 Doz Carpenters hammers []
- 10 powder horns
- 10 Priming Wires
- 2 pair Brass calloper compases
- 1 pair Brass scales With brass & led Weights
compleated

Box N^o. 2

- 400 Fuses filld & primd for hand Granades
- 2 copper rammers to fill the fuses

Cask N^o. 3

- 31 charges Grape Shott

Ginn & Stores Unpackt

- 2 peices cannon 32 pounders
- 2 D^o. 12
- 1 gun Ginn With its furniture
- 6 Lint Stocks
- 2 hand Screws
- 6 Tanned hides in 2 bundles for mens harn[]

¹ Lines missing here.

1 hundred Wgt Sheet Led for Aprons for []
 20 leather buckets
 100 Pick Axes. 50 handle []
 [10 spun]ges with []
 4 coil white rope for ginn folls & []
 ropes for mortars
 1 coil tarred rope
 1 sling for guns

What military Stores exceepe the powder that []
 are come by Cap^t. Wimble not yet landed bu[t]
 expect to get them all on shoore to day

RICH^d. SMITH
 Coms^{ry}.

INDORSED: A List of []
 Military Stores
 by Commis^y. Smith

TO WILLIAM COCKCROFT

*Df.*¹

Albany 31 July 1755.

SIR

Cap^t Maginnis proposes to me to discharge this Servant whose
 Villainy & dishones[ty] has been the Occasion of some late Dis-
 turbance, & to enlist a better Man in his room.

I am of Opinion that this will be, all Circumstances considered,
 for the good of the present Service, and it is therefore my desire
 that you will please to consent thereto.

I have reprimanded him for any Expressions or Behaviour of
 his w^{ch} may have been contrary to that respect & obedience w^{ch}
 is due to you as his Superior Officer. he declares that every thing

¹ In handwriting of P. Wraxall.

in this kind w^{ch} may have escaped him was owing to his Inexperience in Military Life, and that he will hereafter behave towards you & all other his Superior officers with that respect & Obedience w^{ch}. is due from him.

I give him this Letter open to you that he may confirm what I have written. I hope & doubt not, but you will thereupon release him from his present Confinement and if he behaves hereafter as he hath promised, that he will enjoy your favour & friendly Countenance to w^{ch} I beg leave to recommend him & so assure you that I believe him a very honest man & one disposed to do his Country Service & himself honour. I am Sir

Your very hum serv^t.

To WILL. COCKCROFT Esq^r.

Colonel of the New York Reg^t.

INDORSED: Gen^l. Johnson's Letter to
Col. Cockcroft about
Cap^t. Maginnis

TO THOMAS POWNALL

Df.

Albany, 31 July <1755>

DEAR SIR

Believe me that my Silence has been wholly owing <to> necessity not choice. I value your correspondence not only as a friend I esteem but as a Gentleman whose abilities have great weight with me. But I have been so incessantly employed from the time Gov^r. Shirley came up here and in no verry agreeable manner by him, & at the same time the Affairs of the Crown Point Expedition so importunate with me & so absolutely necessary to be attended to, that I have not been master of Suff^t. time to indulge myself in the pleasure of writing you. Mr. Wraxall would have done it from himself, but he who is my only Secretary & Aid de Camp has been as constantly engaged as myself.

I have now severall Gov^{rs}. &ca. to write to but I am determined they shall wait till I give you a few lines.

The Ind^s. unanimously engaged to stand by us & promised that some of each Nation would Join me on the Crown Point Expedition, what numbers they would not tell indeed they said they could not. I could not prevail I used all my Influence to dispatch some to poor Gen^l. Braddock, they declined it & gave me in private severall reasons against it, among which one was, the ill usage they met with from Coll^o. Innes when I sent 3 or 4 with a Packet to Gen^l. Braddock and I am afraid Indⁿ. affairs that way were ill managed and much neglected.

The Ind^s. parted from me at the breaking up of our Meeting in the most Cordial manner & all their Leading Men gave me their Personall assurances that I should not want Ind^s & I verily believe that at no Period of time have they been universally more heartily disposed to our Interest, & I had great hopes which they confirmed to me of getting most of the Coghawagaes to quit Canada or at least to Stand Neuter.

Thus stood Affairs when Gov^r Shirley arrived at Albany. <He was not> satisfied that he would get a suff^t number of Ind^s. at & round <about> Oswego which I assured him of & w^{ch} the Ind^s. confirmed to me. he employed Lyddius to whom he had given a Coll^s. Commissⁿ. over the Ind^s. & a Number of Agents under him without my knowledge or Consent, to Bribe, to work by every possible Artifice in their power on all the Ind^s. they could meet with (& there were great Numbers who came down from my House to Albany & Schnectady) to relinquish me & go with Gov^r. Shirley to Oswego, they spared no money, they spared no reflections upon me in short every trick that could be practised, was made use of, for all w^h Mr. Shirleys Authority was pleaded, Billy Alexander as active as any of 'em, & tis unnaturall to suppose Gov^r Shirley was not private to it, Indeed I did in generall lay it before him he wrote me a verry long angry Letter reproaching, menacing me & grosly abusing Mr. Wraxall. I answered it with Spirit, but cool & Decent. the

Letters are verry long & its impossible for me to send you Copies of them, but I hope I shall have an oppertunity to Shew 'em to you. I make no doubt he will endeavour to wreak his Malice upon me & poor Wraxall, who has wrote to Mr Fox to get quit of his Military Commission so I hope he will be clear of the thunder in that Quarter.

Shirleys Agents are to go to all the Castles as they go along & practise the aforesaid Conduct. they have put the Ind^s into great Confusion by what they have done, & forced Additional expence & trouble & vexation upon me.

However I believe I should have done well enough with regard to the Ind^s. & have had great Numbers in spite of all these proceedings if the Tragical News from Ohio had not arrived but now alas what will be the Consequences I know not, I am waiting them with a most anxious suspence, & I can do nothing at present but wait. the News is undoubtedly arrived from <the> french before now amongst the Senecas & will swiftly <travel down> thro all the Nations. Whither they will turn against us, <whither> thro fear they will sit neuter, or Whither Numbers of them will notwithstanding Join us, God knows I do not. We soon shall.

I had yesterday some Sachems & Warriors leading Men of three upper Nations with me who came to be fitted out wth. Arms &ca to go & call their People down. I told them the News without much softening. they were affected, but assured me they would however stand by us & bring their People. I armed & Cloathed them as usual & they are gone to fulfill their promise.

Without Ind^s I think it will be madness to attempt Crown Point. One Division of the Troops are marched for our grand rendezvous at the Carrying place about 1100 Men they are to build tempory Magazines & Secure themselves there. I hope they will be there tomorrow or next day. I ordered an Officer & a party of Ind^s. to Join them at Saraghtoga to be Scouts for them. Another Division of about 1100 Men are to march the day after

tomorrow with part of y^e. Artillery & about next Wednesday I hope to follow with the remainder of the Troops & the Train. Our Peoples Courage is not abated by the bad News, & I hope tho irregular they will turn out Brave.

I am hurr<y>ing all in my power & determined not to loose a Moment, & if the Ind^s. are not thrown into Confusion by Gov^r. Shirleys Agents, or do not quit us upon the News of our defeat at the Ohio I hope with God's blessing we may in some measure satisfy our verry reasonable Revenge.

The Records of my proceedings will be lodged with Banyar at New York.

If General Shirley plays me fair I will chearfully rest my Cause & Merits upon them. I have sent a Copy to the Board of Trade.

I shall esteem myself favour'd by a Letter from you & be assured your Sentiments will always be of consequence to me. God bless you. I am My Dear Sir Your affect. & faithfull Humble Servant

Mr. Wraxall begs you to accept of his Salutations.

To THO^s POWNELL Esq^r.

INDORSED BY P. WRAXALL: Copy of Gen'l Johnsons Letter to Mr Pownall

TO SCHUYLER AND DE PEYSTER

*Df.*¹

Head Quarters 31 [July] 1755

You are hereby Ordered & directed that One of you or a good & sufficient Deputy having my Approbation & Warrant for the same do prepare to attend the New York Regiment under my Command with such Provisions Amunition & Stores to them

¹ By Wraxall.

belonging as they shall be ordered to take with them when Marching Orders shall be given them of w^{ch} you will receive further Notice from the Colonel of the said Reg^t.

Head Quar^{rs}. in Albany 31 Aug^t.¹ 1755.

To MESS^{rs}. SCHUYLER & DE PEYSTER
Commissaries & Pay Masters
for the New York Reg^t.
Gent^{ra}.

By the General's Command I send you the Inclosed Order
Y^r. hum ser^t
P. W.
A. D. Camp.

INDORSED: Orders to New York
Commissaries

FROM MATTHEW FERRELL²

[Memo]randums of what Lidyus & John [Fisher]
at the Mohawks Castle in Thom^s H[] the Presence of
Capt Ferrall Capt [] Lieut Butler & Lieut Claus &
Arent Stevens the Interpreter & severall others

1. Lidius & Fisher said that they came to y^e Mo[]
in Order to receive the Ind^s. which General Joh[nson] engaged
to Gov^r Shirley to be ready at a Wize & therefore they would
desire Capt: Ferral to or[der] the same Ind^s.

2. When they saw the War Kettle boiling for a Party of
Ind^s. agoing to [] they desired to know by whose
Orders or what the meaning was of having that frolik; When it
was reply'd that as soon as they could produce the Orders for
inquiring into Capt: Farrals Conduct he would produce his for
doing so.

¹ Misdated; July 31 is probably right.

² Probably written in July.

3. Then Lidyus replyd that he could produce his own Orders (which was his Commission) and [] better the[n] Gen^l. Johnsons & a Seal to it better then the Kings, which by saying so it was took to be mean[t] Gov^r. Shirleys, as he said Gen^l Johnsons Commission was only a Provincial one, & by [his?] Commission he was the Third Man in America and if he had the Presents to divide which Gen^l Johnson [] he would have more Ind^s. then Gen^l Johnson was able to get, upon which Capt Ferrall [] answer that it was very likely after what [] Nations had said to him at the Treaty, when he [] & said that them things did not come out of their [] hearts but that it was put into their heads, when he was askd if he thought it was Gen^l Johnson he said no but he did not doubt but the Gov^r of Pennsylvania did;

4. Lidyus came upon the first Discourse again & said that he was sure by what Gen^l. Shir[ley] told him that he placed 5,000 pound starling in Gen^l Johnsons hands, in Order to get Ind^s. for Gen^l Shirley, & in case they could not get the Indians they had Money wth. them to buy Ind^s. but must Keep an exact memorandum of every article they was to lay out, in Order to know who to charge it to.

At Schonectady at Capt Stevens Liddius discoursed to the Purpose as above & said that in case Gen^l Johnson would not stand to his Promise to Gen Shirley of letting him have as many Ind^s. as he wanted, he would not care for it as he could flatter himself to get as many Indians himself as he pleased & also had authority []. his Commission to treat with them as well as Gen^l Johnson for in Case Gen Braddock & Gen^l Shirley was to die he was the Person to succeed them, & take the Com[mand of] all the forces in North America upon him.

[] Willegees Lydyus Spoke to John Fisher [] of the Chief Ind^s [] (who as reported has 20/ ⁴/₅ Day) that he would not [] mention

Gen^l Shirleys Name at the Mohawks [] for he
could do any thing by the authority of his Commis[sion]

INDORSED BY P. WRAXALL: []
Lyddius & Fisher []
In presence of Cap^t Ferrall
& Sundry other persons
at the Mohawks &c

FROM YAN VAN CUREN AND OTHERS¹

D. S.

To the Hon^{ble}. William Johnson <Esquire> and Major
General of the forces designed <for> Crown Point.

The Petition of several of the freeholders and Inhabitants to
the Northward of the City of Albany
Humbly Shew

That the places where your petitioners dwell are so Situated
and at this time so Greatly exposed to a Cruel enemy which makes
it highly necessary to appear as defensive as possible and that
there is and has been for some time a Number of forces belonging
to the army designed for the Expedition now in hand posted upon
the farms and plantations of some of your petitioners to their
Great ease and satisfaction in these Dangerous times your peti-
tioners under the Protection of such a number of men hoped and
expected to have reaped the fruits of their Labour and have been
very diligent & Industrious against the approaching harvest But
now so it is may it please your honour that your petitioners have
been Credibly Informed to their Great discontent that all the men
are to be removed down to join the other forces encamped which
will deprive them of their expectations and intirely prevent them
of enjoying the fruit of their Labour and oblige them to quit their
farms Immediately and Seek for Shelter in some other place to
their Great Loss and Damage which would be very hard after
they have been at Considerable Expences already and have stood

¹ Probably written in July 1755.

it out so long there and ventured their lives for the preservation of their Estates Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that your honour will please to take the matter into Consideration and the hardships that must Consequently attend the removal of the men And your petitioners doubt not that as the Sole Management is left to You upon whom they Intirely rely and therefore hope You'll please to order the men or so Many as you think necessary to continue at the places they now are at until they march as there can be no Great Inconviencys that can possibly attend by their Continuance but rather very beneficial to the Country in Generall because they may be more handy and ready to Go upon the Scout in Case any thing shod render it necessary. But we Submit it intirely to your honour and doubt not You'll Grant so reasonable a request.

In behalf of themselves and the rest of the freeholders & Inhabitants.

YAN VAN CUREN
JACOB VAN DER HEYDEN
PETER SCHUYLER
MATHYAS VANDERHEYDEN.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

Friday 1st August 1755

DEAR SIR

When I consider how much I have troubled you with my Letters, some of them very tedious, and on subjects I must think my self very unequal to, I blame myself for employing so much of your time uselessly, but you may be assured nothing but my desire to do Good could prompt me at once to plague both you & myself, for I am very averse to writing in general: So much for Preface, where I shall conclude I do not know. It is impossible for me to describe the anxiety of Mind I have endured since the Account of our memorable Disgrace. I'm out of all patience,

& can hardly give way to cool Reflection for a Moment, that might possibly place things in such a light as to excuse some steps which I fear will Ever appear unpardonable. I mean our shameful Retreat, our more shameful Destruction of the ammunition &c. and, if our Papers are lost, the most stupid infatuation that can possibly be conceived to enter into the most imprudent Mind. Our Schemes discovered, & the other operations not assisted even by a Feint! As to Niagara, if we fail of Success that Way, it will be ask'd how we came to be so tardy. I know the Trouble you have had, and methinks see you with infinite pains surmounting every Difficulty.

The Junction of the Indians is a point that will be determined one way or 'tother before this comes to Hand. I know a certain degree of Truth is necessary to keep up your Influence with them. but if they abandon us now in a time of danger, when Affairs with respect to the Protection they have ever desired from us, are in the most promising Situation; I say if they abandon us now they may go to the Devil for ought I care. And I still hope we may see the time not to be reduced to the Necessity of begging, & being denyed their assistance, and if they do not now join us on both Expeditions, I shall think it the Effect of a mean dastardly Spirit: I am lead to this warmth, by the doubts you express in your Letter to Mr. Watts of the 26 which he read to me last night, in which you desire him to send you Credit for £1000 upon an Order you inclose him on the Paymaster. He ask'd my opinion who I thought might be a proper Person: We were both of opinion no time would be lost in sending the Money, & he concluded to send it.

Saturday 8, oC: Thus far I had got when I was obliged to attend the Council at 5 yesterday Afternoon the Result of which the Express now carries to Gen^l. Shirley. The Council desire the Governor to apply for the return of our two Companies, to garison the several Forts. They also express their Concern at the Troops going into quarters which they say may endanger the disappointment of the attack on Niagara, as the Enemy seeing

our Army past the Mountains will undoubtedly march with the greatest part of their Force to Niagara: and that this may even risque Oswego. The Council conclude by declaring their opinion that the French may be attacked with the greatest advantage by Oswego & Crown Point, and therefore think not only the Troops to the Southward, but such as can be spared from Nova Scotia should rendezvous at Albany to be near at hand for any future operations and to sustain either of the 2 armies on foot. this is upon a Presumption the Forces at Will's Creek go into Quarters: for they could wish rather to see another Attempt this year. I shall be very glad to hear of your departure. You cant imagine how intirely ignorant we are of yours or Gov^r. Shirleys Motions when you intend to march, or even what Strength you have. You'll give me the Satisfaction of a few Lines by the Return of this Express. I dont desire you to give yourself any more than the trouble of a very few Lines, on those heads, at least as much as concerns yourself & whether Mr. Shirley is likely to proceed in Person to Niagara. I am Dear Sir with the greatest affection yours

GW. BANYAR

A Burnt child dreads the Fire. We therefore are under apprehensions least your People are attacked by Surprise

GEN^L JOHNSON.

INDORSED BY WRAXALL: Banyars Letter, New York, Aug^t.
recd 4 d^o. Ans^d.

TO JOHANNES HANSEN

*Df.*¹

Albany 1 Aug^t. 1755

SIR

I find that notwithstanding the late Sever[e] Act of Assembly published in this Town against any Persons Selling Rum or other Spirituous Liquors to Indians, that it is nevertheless done

¹ In handwriting of P. Wraxall.

& as it is of the utmost ill Consequence to His Majestys Service at this Juncture.

I apply to You in His Majestys Name as the Chief Magistrate of this City to make use of Your Authority & to employ all the Legal Measures in your power to prevent this Insolent & pernicious Breach of the Law & to bring the offenders to due & Just punishment according to Act of Assembly. I am Sir

Your hum serv^t.

To HANS HANSEN Esq^r.

Mayor of the City of Albany

INDORSED: Gen^{ls}. letter to Mayor
of Albany about Selling Rum.

DISTANCE FROM ALBANY TO CROWN POINT

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 44, by Cornelius Cuyler's calculation of distance from Albany to Crown Point, giving intermediate points (Printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:287; Q., 4:185). Not destroyed in the fire.

TO ROBERT ORME

*Df.*¹

Albany 1 Aug^t. 1755.

DEAR SIR

How deeply I am affected by our Loss on the Ohio & by poor General Braddocks Death I will not attempt to describe nor expatiate on the Tragical Subject. To me in particular & I dare say to all who know you Your escape with Life is an essential Consolation under so Melancholly an Event. I do most unfeignedly felicitate you thereupon & hope your wounds will be soon healed, your Health reestablished & your future Life yield you every desirable Good.

I wrote Gen. Braddock a long Letter the 15 Inst accompanying a Copy of my Proceedings at the late Meeting of the Indians

¹ In handwriting of P. Wraxall.

at my House, I hope that Packet is to fall into your hands & remain in your Custody. after the perusal of the Proceedings I did suppose Gen^l. Braddock would have transmitted them to the Administration at home & I flattered my self would have made favorable mention of me, but alas he is gone. I have transmitted to the Lords of Trade another Copy, & had I time I would have sent them a Duplicate, but in the present Crowd of affairs w^{ch} press upon me & cannot be postponed tis impossible for me to do <it.>

Great would be my pleasure to shake hands once more with you, but I understand you design for England as soon as your Health & affairs will permit. You will therefore I suppose take those Proceedings with you, so that if the Copy I sent to the Board of Trade should miscarry this will serve as a Duplicate.

I have rec^d. Gen^l. Shirleys Order upon the Deputy Pay Master at Boston for £3000 Sterg. in Consequence of Gen^l. Braddocks Credit to me, that was unlimited but now there is an End of it. Gen^l. Shirley wrote me that the Colonies are to pay me their Quotas to make up £800 Sterg the Sum appropriated for Presents to the Indians & that I was to be accountable for it to the Gen^l. Whether they will do so now I know not. The £2000 Sterg. I was to receive from Mr. Oliver DeLancey upon Gen^l. Braddocks Acc^t. he has paid me, amounting to £3419:—:—: this Curr^y. for w^{ch} I have given the Gen^l. Credit & shall do the same for the Produce of the £3000 Sterg. when it is paid for I sent it forward but a few days ago. I beg you will please to inform to whom I am now accountable for the Monies lodged with me & all other particulars w^{ch} may be necessary for the regulation of my conduct so far as is in your power.

Gov^r. Shirley grew Jealous & Distrustful of me & he was peremptory that he would have Indians to escort him to Oswego. I told him that as his whole way to Oswego lay thro the Indians Country there was no fear of his being attacked by Enemy Indians in going thither. Of the same Opinion were the Indians, as they told me at the Meeting & I am well assured would have

declined it had I proposed it upon 'em. Of the same mind were all those who are best acquainted with this subject. Nevertheless Gen^l. Shirley on his arrival at this place was detirmined he would take a Convoy of Indians at any rate, and therefore employed a Person he had given a Col^{ls}. Commission to over the Indians & several Agents under him, to go among the Indians, & by bribes, by Promises, by Reflections on me & asserting that my Commission from Gen^l. Braddock was no more than a Militia Commission, in short by every artifice that could be fallen upon to destroy my Influence & prevail on them to break their Promises of joining me in the Crown Point Expedition. they got 5 or 6 of the nearest Castle by these Means but the rest of them declared they would go with me to a Man. his Agents say they are to go to all the Indian Castles as they pass by & take the same Methods to debauch the Indians from me. These Schemes I was apprized of & took such Measures as lay in my Power to counteract them w^{ch} has been <an ad>ditional Expence & given me a great deal of Trouble <&> Vexation. Letters have passed between Gen^l. Shirley & me on this Occasion not very pleasing to <each> other, and from a former Friend I have reason to believe he is become my Enemy. Conscious I am, that in my Calm & best Judgment, I acted as Circumstances then stood, conformable to my Duty & the real Interest of the public. The Letters are very long & tis impossible for me now to get them Copied, but whenever time will admit, I will take the Liberty to trouble you with the Copies of them. Gen^l Shirleys Proceedings have caused great Confusion amongst the Indians & I fear will be attend^d. with ill conse<quences.>

Since the unfortunate Turn of Affairs, I am under great Fears that our Indians will not dare to appear in our favour, and I am sensible it will increase the utility of Mr. Shirleys having more Indians with him at Oswego. And without Indians it would be madness to undertake the Expedition to Crown Point.

I have had a few Indians with me since the bad News w^{ch} I imparted to them & they told me it should not alter their reso-

lutions, I am waiting to see what effect it will have on the several Nations of Indians, and till that point is cleared up I must let all things remain as they are.

One Division of the Troops under my Command are marched to the Carrying Place abt <50> Miles from hence. in two days another is to march with part of the Artillery, I hope to follow myself in three or four days after with the remainder of the Troops & Artillery. And if the Indians join us from thence I shall proceed to Crown Point.

I once more send you my best Wishes & am Dear Sir &c

Mr Wraxall tho you are not personally known to each other shares with me the pleasure of yr. being amongst the living & begs you will accept of his respectful Salutations.

CAPT. ROBT. ORME Esqr.

INDORSED: Gen^l. Johnson's Letter to

Cap^t Orme from Albany 1 Aug^t 1755.

TO MOSES TITCOMB

*D.*¹

Albany 1 Aug^t 1755

Orders & Instructions for Col. Moses Titcomb Commanding officer of the Second Division of the Provincial Forces under my Command now under Marching Orders.

1.

Before you march from your present Encampment you are to review the Troops you are to Command to have the Articles of War against Mutiny & Desertion read to them & take care that a strict Inspection be made into their Arms Amunition & Accoutrements, that the proper number of Battoes be duly manned & as much put into them as the Depth of the Water will bear & so as not to retard your March or over fatigue your Men. And before you march off you are to send me a Return off the number

¹ In handwriting of and with signed memorandum of P. Wraxall.

of officers & Men distinguishing the Reg^{ts}. they belong to & also a Report in regard to the rest of this Order.

2.

You are to march from your present Encampment with the Division, Baggage Waggons, Battoes, Artillery & Stores their officers & Men, under your Command from your present Encampment to the great Carrying Place, where you are to join & put your Self & your Division under the Command of Major General Lyman.

3.

You are to march Your Men in such Order as will best cover the Artillery, its Stores your Baggage Waggons & Battoes to have proper Advanced, Rear & flank Guards. so to march as to prevent any undue Intervals or confusion to preserve Silence & Decency & to halt the Front every half hour or every hour as may give time for your Rear to gain any Ground they may have lost, to let your Men breathe & those who want empty themselves. You are to order the officers to prevent any Men from straggling out of their proper marching Line.

As the Quarter Master General is to accompany you a day or two's March you will any particulars wherein you may want advice in these matters apply to him.

3dly.

You will take especial Care that no Pipes be smoaked or any Fire come near the Powder Waggons, & that they be kept with all possible care free from any Wet & a suff^t Guard at all times upon them, and any offender in these Points must be publickly punished at your first Encampment after their offence, also any Person who dares wantonly & without Orders to waste their amunition & make false Alarms. You are to Issue Publick Orders as to these particulars before your March & have them strictly put in Execution & no Offender pardoned.

4.

After the Quarter Master General has left you, you will take the utmost Care to choose the safest & most advantageous Ground for your Encampments, to keep the proper Guards & a suff^t number of Sentries & a particular Guard for the Powder. And you are to make all possible & convenient Dispatch to the End of your Rou<te.>

5.

As the Troops who are to march under Your Command, have not been used to a regular Military, I desire & expect you will keep up a Strict Discipline in all respects as Circumstances will possibly admit of, and to establish & preserve that relative Subordination without w^{ch}. every Military Undertaking will be Shameful & very probably fatal.

6.

As you may meet a Party or Parties of our Friend Indians whom I have sent out in such case they will have a white officer with them who will advance with a piece of red Cloth as a Flag, and if you should by chance meet with a single Friend Indian, he will have a bit of Red List tied round his Head. These you are to receive & take care that they are civilly & kindly treated & upon their officers Application you are to direct the Commissaries to Issue a suff^t. Quantity of Provisions & due allow^{ce}. of Rum to him for them & I will make it good to the said Commissaries. take care that no more Rum be given them than what their officer requires.

You are to take the utmost Care & Caution that none of the Men should by a rash forwardness fire on any of these Indians for should any of them be killed or wounded the Consequences would be most fatal to the Service. No small Party such as our Friend Indians will be, will offer to attack you or discover themselves while you keep in a Body together, & a single Indian is not to be dreaded & indeed but as a Friend will not show himself.

These Points relating to Indians you are most strictly to observe & give out in orders & take particular Care that they are observed with the utmost Exactness.

As opportunity offers during your March send me an Acc^t. how you go on.

Head Quarters Albany 1 Aug^t 1755

Signed by

The General.

2^d. Aug^t.

These orders were ready to be delivered to Col. Titcom on yesterday but he not coming I went to his Quarters this Morning by the Gen^{ls}. Orders & delivered them to him

PETER WRAXALL A. D. Camp.

INDORSED: Marching Orders
& Instructions to
Moses Tidcomb Com
officer of the 2^d. Division.

PETER WRAXALL TO WILLIAM COCKCROFT

A. L. S.

Albany 1 Aug^t. 1755.

SIR

The Bearer tells the General you [] (if he consent) willing to let him have a Party to cover his Workmen while they get his Wheat

The General orders me to acquaint you, if upon Enquiry you find it safe & are willing, he will approve if your letting him have an Officer & 25 Men to whom you will give proper Orders for their Security against the Enemy. I am Sir

Y^r most hum serv^t

PETER WRAXALL

A. D. C.

To COL. COCKCROFT.

FROM WILLIAM EYRE ¹

A. D.

[August 1, 1755]

Train & stores for y^e Second Division

Shot	Guns		
400.....2		32 p ^{drs}	} 200 Barrels of Powder
500.....2		18 p ^{drs}	
400.....2		12 p ^{drs}	
400.....4		6 p ^{drs}	

Two Lieut^s. of Artillery with 23 Men, the Deputy Commissary
of Stores & 30 Carpenters with their Tools

1 Smiths Forge compleat

100 Shovels

30 Tarpaulins

50 Wood Axis

40 Pick Axis

1 Cask of Spedes

106 Handles for Ditto

36 Bags for Grape Shott

4 Casks for Wadding

3 Whip Saws

12 Sheep Skins

1 Gyn with compleat furniture

2 Coyl of White rope

Lead for aprons

INDORSED BY WRAXALL: Cap^t Eyre's List of

Artillery & Stores. for 2^d. Division.

¹ Probably prepared about August 1. See Johnson to Eyre of July 29
and Johnson to Titcomb of August 1.

TO STEPHEN WEBSTER

*Df.*¹

Head Quarters, Albany

2 Aug^t. 1755.—

[
You are hereby [ordered to obey?] all such Orders & Directions
as you or [] from time to time receive from Cap^t
Eyre [] or the Comman[ding] officers of the Artil-
lery under him upon all the future services you may hereafter be
employed without further Orders from me

To CAP^t. WEBSTER

Superintendent of the

Carpenters.—

INDORSED: Order to Cap^t. Webster
for Cap^t. Eyre.

TO RICHARD SMITH

*Df.*¹

Head Quarters Albany 2. Aug^t. 1755.

You are hereby Ordered & directed to deliver such Stores
belonging to the Artillery in your Possession as Cap^t. Eyre Chief
Engineer & Director of the Artillery shall send you written
Orders for.

Signed by the Gen^l

To M^r. RICHARD SMITH

Commissary of the Artillery and its Stores.

INDORSED: Order to Commissary Smith for Artillery & Stores
for the 2^d. Division.

¹ In handwriting of W^raxall.

² Several lines burned off.

TO BENNING WENTWORTH

*Df.*¹*1 Aug^t. 1755*

SIR

I have your Excellencys favour of the 21 past.

The Troops of your Province are not yet arrived & excepting the Acc^t. you give me of them, I have hitherto heard none, when I know where to transmit my orders either to Colonel Blanchards or the other Division I shall do it.

One Division of the rest of the Forces are marched for the great Carrying Place & I hope are before now arrived there. Anot<her> is to set off to morrow with part of the Artillery. And in 4 days more I propose to march from hence with the remainder of the Forces & Artillery.

I will not, I ought not to doubt y^r. Excellencys good Dispositions towards this important Service & I am very sorry you have met with so many perplexing Obstacles in your Endeavours to forward & support it.

In what Light the Conduct of your Assembly if the Expedition should Suffer by any Proceedings of theirs with respect to these Troops, w^{ch} I have great reason to fear will be of little or no service to the Common Cause. I say in this Case, in what Light they will Stand to His Majesty, to all Mankind who are Interested in it, I will leave to their own impartial Reflection & to future time. I might not possibly contain myself with in the bounds of Decency, were I to expatiate on this Subject. I am most respectfully Sir

Your Excellencys Most Obed^t hum Serv^t

To His Excellency

GOV^R. WENTWORTH

INDORSED: Letter to Gov^r. Wentworth

1 Aug^t. 1755

¹ In handwriting of Wraxall.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

Sunday the 3^d. August <1755>

DEAR SIR

When your Letter of the 30th ult^o was brought to the Governor, he was at Willet's, where he had din'd being the last day of the Term. He put it into my Hands, and I read it twice. He seem'd to be of opinion not to lay it before the Council apprehending, as I surmis'd, that what you say with respect to the Gentleman's Conduct you mention, might reach his Ears. Whether the Governor will not alter his Sentiments and lay it before them to Morrow I don't know. If you had concluded your Letter with the same Sentiments or apprehensions, that you express in the first part, I should have imagined it to have been the Effect <of> the powerful Influence of (I may say) the general Panick.

Was there never an Army defeated before, even perhaps as shamefully, and were People while the Fright was upon them never guilty of the like Indiscretion & Imprudence, If I admit not, still this Misfortune ought to have a very different Effect upon the Minds of all, than to throw them into despair, or give them a meaner Opinion of the Strength we have yet left to exert; It will I am persuaded rather animate than depress you. And I am not without hopes that your Fears with respect the Indians may have been removed by this time. Surely they would not now sit looking on as meer Spectators only, while the French Indians are openly acting in favour of their Allies & Friends the French they profess *at least* to have the same Friendship for us why dont they then observe the same Conduct the French Indians do. They must appear in a very shameful light to all the World, if they suffer us to go on with these two Expeditions without joining us, and that heartily too. And may be repent it too late. For tho' I know full well the Consequence of Indians, yet I know too, how little their weight, tho great, will avail against the Strength we can exert, and in Case of a defection on their Parts

must exert. This is talking at Random you may say But will I trust sooner or later be found in reality. The Enemy had only the likeness of Men to fight against, the bare appearance and Noise of the Indians must have scar'd them. What Sticks most in my Stomach is the destruction of Stores &c after we came off, when the whole Force of the Enemy could not have hurt us in our Retreat. And if they had not Horses or Waggonen enough they could have encamped & sent for them. Mr. Peters writes me there was £25,000 in the Military Chest which was taken by the Enemy, and in it General Braddock's Comm^o. Instructions Letters Plans & in short the whole Secretary's office. If these things were *all* necessary to be carryed why not in the 2^d. Division. I cant think there could have been so much Money in the Chest. The Plan if not before, is now discovered to the Enemy, and the Work we have in hand will consequently be attended with more difficulty. they will be better provided next year to disappoint us, than they can possibly be this. And they cannot send equal numbers tho they may ambuscade us. Your Proposal of attacking Cadaraqui, is founded I suppose on this Reason, that it might draw off the attention & Force of the Enemy, & induce them to think we had changed our Plan. Gov^r. Shirley only can do this, being now I apprehend the Commanding officer of all the Troops. I think we are too late for that and Niagara both, and full late enough for the latter. Some suspect Gen. Shirley will leave the operations to the next officer & return hither. If the Pensilvanians go on again, as I hear they intend to raise 3000 Men to join the Army & make another attempt this year The Enemy must loose either Fort Duquesne or Niagara I think, if we proceed in the attack of the latter Place. Whether their political Differences may not prevent it I cant tell: They seem to say Not in their answer to the Governors Message. They must be speedy in their Preparations, or the Season will be elapsed.

Monday 10 oClock A:Mer: When I had wrote the above I went out to the Governor, who has wrote to you but not finished

his Letter. You see how much he differs from the Sentiments expressed <in your Letter.> At all events I think we ought to proceed both ways. <I have seen> your Letter to Mr. Colden of Saturday this Moment arrived <by> Express. People here who dont know the true Reason of your not marching wonder at the Delay: Every day, I might say <hour,> you stay, will add to the Strength of the Enemy. March then as soon as possible, but beware of Ambuscades, least your Men be discouraged by a warm & unexpected attack. The Indians if you have enough of 'em will go a great way in preventing this. People in general think you have too many Cannon, fearing they may retard your March. If there is no Breach between you and Mr. Shirley or it be not too wide, it's my opinion you had better keep well with him. The Governor only proposes to lay an Extract of your Letter before the Council at 11 oClock & will than finish & send his Letter by this Express you send for Paint.

1, o'Clock. The Council are of opinion you proceed. Not doubting youl use the proper Precautions on your March: Go on for God-sake & let not small matters, I had almost said any thing detain you. Remember much depends on your own Safety. Farewell I expect good Accounts from you and am Dr. Sir your m^t. obed^t. Servant

GW BANYAR

My Compliments to my good Friend Wraxall and Cap^t Eyre
Think where the French may first attack you

GEN^L JOHNSON.

INDORSED: Mr. Banyars letter 3^d.

Aug^t. recd 6 d^o.

FROM JAMES DÈ LANCEY

L. S.

New York 3^d. August 1755

SIR

I yesterday received your Letter of the 30th. <of> last Month, and am sorry to find that General Shir<ley> takes separate Steps from you in engaging the Indians, as I am sensible that Method will be attended with bad Consequences. General Braddock having commissioned you, in pursuance of the opinion of the Council at Alexandria, to have the Management of Indian Affairs in this Conjunction, I did by the Advice of his Majesty's Council send an Order to the Commissioners <of> Indian Affairs at Albany to cease acting, being fully convinced that their Affairs should be put under one Direction, to avoid the distraction that different and some times perhaps contrary Applications might create among them. I am surprised General Shirley should put so great a Trust in Lydius as to place him at the Head of the Indians. A Man who is said to have abjured his Religion publicly in Canada, and has married a Wife of that Country and of the Romish Religion. I cannot think it altogether safe to put so great a Confidence in such a Man, and wish General Shirleys Measures may not turn out to the prejudice <of> his Majesty's Service.

I was very much concerned at the Death of General Braddock, particularly on your personal Account, as he appeared to me an honest Man. I make no doubt but he would have represented your Services in this Juncture in such a Light, as would have procured you some lasting Establishment. As to the Measures necessary to be taken at this time, I cannot conceive that any can be so effectual as executing the Plans proposed: This will shew the Indians that we are not at all amazed at our Loss, and they may be easily perswaded to think, as the Truth is, that the Success of the French was entirely owing to the European Troops being

unaccustomed to and unacquainted with Wood Fighting. Proceed on them with that part of the Plan under your Direction with Vigilance and Vigour, and I will not doubt, as I see no reason to doubt, of your Success. This will gain you lasting Honour, recover the Indians from their Fears, and be of infinite Advantage to all the Colonies and I hope open a Door to let us in next year to Montreal.

The Assembly meet on Tuesday, when I hope to prevail on them to raise more Men to reinforce your Army, and make no doubt Connecticut will do the same. Upon the most serious Consideration upon the present State of Affairs, I am clearly of opinion that nothing can restore or enlarge our Credit with the Indians, than shewing them we are not afraid of the French, and that these Colonies have strength and spirit enough to engage and beat them too. I have wrote to the Governor of Connecticut to reinforce you with 500 men & shall try the assembly here to find ways and means to raise men for the same purpose, if these reinforcements come up to you it will encourage your men & enable you to execute your part of the plan with only a handfull of Indians, in all Events you will be able to build a line of forts that may cover these Countries, restrain & annoy the Enemy. Learn caution from General Braddock's misfortune, & repay the French with double Interest I <am> Sir

Your most humble Ser<vant>

JAMES DEL<ANCEY>

<MAJOR GENERAL> JOHNSON

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Gov^r. Delanceys letter

Ans^d. 8 Aug^t.

TO MOSES EMERSON

*Df.*¹*Head Quarters 3 August 1755.*

You are hereby ordered & directed to deliver to the Commissary of the Artillery Stores or his Order a sufficient Quantity of Bags to put the Powder in as it is not safe to carry it otherwise.

To MOSES EMERSON Esq^r.Commissary Gen^l. for the

Province of Massachusetts Bay

INDORSED: Orders to Massachusetts Commissary for Powder Bags.

FROM EBENEZER NICHOLS

*A. D. S.**At the Camp August the 3:1755*

Agreable to the orders of yesterday I have attended the Besnes of s^d day and find the men in General in hie Sprets and want nothing more then to be upon thare march and found all things well

Your most humble most obedant Sar^{vt}.EBIN^R NICHOLS

officer of the day

To GENERAL WILL^M. JOHNSON

INDORSED BY WRAXALL: Maj^r. Nichols Feild officer of the Days report 3 Aug^t. 1755.

At the time this Report was given Col. Titcomb was not ready with his Battoes & the next day Col. Williams wrote the Gen^l. a Letter that his Battoes were all leaky & unfit for Service & Col. Titcomb wrote another Letter the same day of this Report that he was not ready to proceed.

¹ By Wraxall.

FROM MOSES TITCOMB

D. S.

*At the Camp on the flatts
Sunday Aug^t. the 3^d. 1755*

Return of the Three Regiments, in the Division Under My Com^d.

	Field officers	Captains	Lieuts	Ensigns	Sargents	Corporals	Drumers	private Effective Men	Sick	Total
In Col: Titcomb's Regiment.....	3	10	10	10	30	40	10	334	7	454
In Col: Goodrich's Regiment.....	3	6	6	6	24	24	6	336	14	404
In Col: William's Regiment.....	2	6	6	6	18	24	6	170	9	247
Total of officers and men.....	8	22	22	22	72	88	22	840	30	1105

This is a True State of the Regiments in the Division under My Com^d. I have According to y^r. Hon^{rs}. Direction Examined the Arms and Acoutrements and Put them Into Repair.

MOSES TITCOMB

INDORSED BY WRAXALL: Col <Titcombs Return of> Officers & Men of the Reg^{ts}. under His Command in the 2^d. Division & report of Arms & Accoutrements.

TO MOSES TITCOMB

Df.¹

Head Quarters Albany 3^d. Aug^t. 1755

You are hereby Ordered & directed to detach immediately from the Reg^t. under your Command Forty Men, from Col. Goodrich's Reg^t. 40 Men & from Col. Williams Reg^t. Twenty

¹ By Wraxall.

Men to go in & work the Artillery Battoes, to send such as are most capable for that Service & to send a Captain & Two Lieu^{ts}. with them.

Signed by the Gen^l.

To COLONEL MOSES TITCOMB

INDORSED: Order to Col. Titcomb for 100 Men to load & go.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

Monday 4 Aug^t. 1755 — 5 oClock almost

DEAR SIR

Your other Occupations will not admit of your attending to Matters of less Moment, tho very material to your Success. I mean the employing proper Carpenters, Smiths & other Persons as well to repair the Carriages in Case of accident on the Way, as to facilitate the Carrying of the Train. I deel plainly with you. I'm informed of an Omission as to this Matter occasioned by Persons under you. Dear Sir you know the weight of any Disappointment will fall heaviest on you. See every thing necessary about the Train: It is even as necessary as Indians. I tremble at the difficulty you'l meet with in getting them along. I repeat that you dont go without Carpenters, Smiths & persons acquainted with the Roads.

I am told the Albany People fear the difficulties youl find in getting your Train along will endanger your Success greatly. Think seriously if it be not best to leave behind you a part of the heavy Cannon. It is said you'l not find Horses enough to get them along.

Keep this Letter to yourself. I hope my Information is wrong. You'l soon know. The People say you cant see everything done &, therefore things dont go so well. My dear Friend, be assured nothing but the most sincere Regard for you could have prevailed with me to give you the Trouble which this whether true or false may give you, & that I am yours with the greatest affection

GW BANYAR

I am told one Corn^s. Van Ness is a very useful Hand. If you think so employ him: & dont let small Matters of Expence discourage you I hope you'll find the use of the <two> Persons I sent you.

ADDRESSED: To Major General William Johnson
at Albany

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: August 4th. 1755
Banyars letter.

FROM ARENT STEVENS

A. D. [August 4, 1755]

The Hon^{ble}. WILLIAM JOHNSON Esq^r. Dr.
To Arent Stevens

1755		£:s:d
July	To Cash reimbursed for the use of Otterawana before he went to Albany.....	0: 6:0
	on his return here	
	To Breakfast to six Indians.....	0: 3:0
	To a Lamb	0: 6:0
Aug ^t . 1 st .	To a Gall rum given to the Fighters.....	0: 4:0
	To Cash to Moses to provide himself a Waggon at the disire of Lieu ^t . John Butler.	0: 9:0
3.	To 30 th Beef to Otterawana @ 4 ^d	0:10:0
	To a Gall rum to Petrus.....	0: 4:0
	To a quart rum to Peter.....	0: 1:0
	To Victuals and drink to the two above Ind ^{ns}	0: 2:0
4.	To Victuals to Otterawana and his wife...	0: 2:0
	To W ^m . Vroman to bring with his Waggon Otterawana &c. to Albany.....	0: 9:0
		£2:16:-
	To 8 th ₄ Vermillion @ 18/ Bought at Mr. Gronedyke	7: 8:6
		£10: 4:6

FROM GOLDSBRÒW BANYAR

A. L.

[5? Aug^t. 1755¹]

An extract of your long Letter [was] laid before the Assembly in consequence of the Council's Advice upon its being laid before them. I was against its going to either but especially the Assembly, and after the Council had advised it to be laid before the House [I] told the Governor I thought it were better not to do it. He said, seeing the doubtful Situation of the Indians, it might animate the Assembly to warmer Resolutions. It was highly disapproved of (I mean the former part of it, nothing being left out but what related to Mr. S²) and 'tis now mentioned to your disadvantage by some, who seem rather affected to the Niagara than the Crown Point Expedition, for I assure you that's a Kind of Party Matter; and by some who were not formerly your Friends I [mean?] Dutchmen. The Members said it was your Secretary's not yours & let fall some apprehensions at the Discouraging sentiments in the Letter: They considered the Letter in one view only. All here wish you to succeed, & I assure you very many from their particular Regards and esteem for you, as well as publick [Motives?] The difference between you & Mr. S. begins to be talk'd of. You may judge how Matters stand when the Reflector Paper³ endeavours to justify him, and cast the blame upon you. Let them say what they will, it is easy to guess where the Odium will fall: & there are very few but are

¹ Later than Banyar's of the 3d.

² Johnson to DeLancey, July 30, 1755, q. v.

³ The *Independent Reflector*, a weekly newspaper or magazine hostile to the friends of Johnson, was suppressed in 1753, so that, unless a copy was brought out surreptitiously at this time, this reference could scarcely be to this newspaper. The interests responsible for its publication, however, had made arrangements with Hugh Gaine of the *New York Mercury* to publish their political essays in his paper under the caption of the "Watch Tower." It may be that Banyar, thinking of the people who were responsible for the "Watch Tower" articles in the *Mercury*, referred to it as above, but search fails to reveal the matter he refers to.

convinced already. If you write to Mr. Pownall, let it be in your own Hand, he told me twould be more satisfactory to him than in anothers, and that you had no excuse but want of time — he added he was prevented from sending a Copy [of] it to his Brother for that Reason. You see his meaning and that I intend this for your *own* perusal: The Friendship I profess for you, obliges me to give you these hints, of which I intend it as a proof, whatever use they may be of.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: a Private letter from Banyar
August 1755.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

Wednesday Night 9 oClock 6 Aug^t. 1755

DEAR SIR

I have received your Favour of the 1st. Instant: This Express carrys a Letter to Mr. Shirley from Gov. Dinwiddie ¹ the Contents of which he does not mention but says it is of great Importance, and the Clerks tell me the Express said they were raising Men in Virginia who listed very fast. Penn'lvania Assembly have sent up their Bill, but Mr. Franklin writes Mr. Colden he doubts if it will pass as they tax the proprietors Estate. I am in hopes however it will in some way or other be managed so as that they will make another attempt this year. Mr. Pownall is here, I now send to him to know if he will write. he talks of going home this Fall: My dear Sir, I must repeat that you guard against Ambuscades. they say the poor General said he was sensible of his Error, and that if he had surviv'd it, would manage differ-

¹ Robert Dinwiddie was born in Scotland about 1690 and died in England in 1770. He came to Virginia in 1752 as lieutenant governor, and engaged with energy in projects for securing the Ohio country against French occupation. By his authority, Washington made the celebrated journey to Fort Le Bœuf, and also led the expedition of 1754. In conflict at different times with the legislature, Dinwiddie incurred popular displeasure. He was recalled in 1758.

ently. If you go by the South Bay, they tell me of a place called the Narrows, & if it be so narrow a Passage as I am informed it is, I do not see how you can attempt the Passage till you drive the Enemy from thence. Is it possible by a Feint, or by any other means, to prevent the Enemys knowing the Rout you take that you may oblige them to guard different Passes, & thus divide their Strength. It is of the utmost consequence to us that you Succeed and I shall not doubt the utmost Caution prudence and Vigour on your part and that by gaining the good opinion and Confidence of the Soldiery and maintaining a good understandg. with the officers, you will find in them all that you can expect from Men actuated by the love of their Country and animated with a proper Resentment at our late Defeat. I am dear Sr. yours with the greatest affection.

GW BANYAR

Mr. Pownall desires his Compliments to you, says he cannot possibly write by this Express & shall be glad to hear from you. The Gov. Shew'd him your long Letter, so that he is acq^d with the Difficulties Mr Shirley has occasioned you which had been differently represented to him. On this Occasion you may say something with[out] carrying the point too farr. He can do you great Services if he goes home, and I am fully convinced will warmly espouse your Interest.

GENERAL JOHNSON

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: August the 6th. 1755

Banyars letter

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR et al.

In *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:675; Q, 2:393-94, is printed a letter of August 6th from Lieutenant Governor James De Lancey to Lieutenant Governor Spencer Phips on the necessity of strengthening Johnson's expeditionary force; p. 676-77, a letter of the 6th from Banyar to Johnson on the same subject, followed by a resolution of the same day by the New York assembly providing for such increase; p. 677-78, resolutions of the Massachusetts general court of like tenor, passed August 7th. Banyar's letter is entered in the Johnson Calendar, p. 45; it was not destroyed in the fire.

FROM RICHARD SMITH

A. D. S.

Aug. 2-6, 1755

Augst. y^e 2 1755

[List of stores] sent to y^e camp under y^e care of y^e dep^y.

[Com]misary

400. 32 pound ball

500.. 18

400.. 12

400.. 6

200 Barrels powder

1 Ginn its furniter 1 pair Slings

1 copper ladle & worm for y^e 32 pounders

2 spunges with rammers....d^o... d^o

1 copper Ladle & worm.....18 pounders

3 spunges with rammers..... d^o.

1 copper ladle & worm.....12 pounders

2 spunges with rammers..... d^o.

2 copper ladles.....6 pounders

4 spunges d^o.

1 Cartridge box for y^e 32 pounder

1 D^o. 18

1 D^o. 12

1 D^o. 6

1 hand screw

70 Leather Buckets

5 Budge barrels

3 hammers

100 Shovels

10 powder horns

10 priming wires

22 Paint Polens

12 sheep sckins

100 Axes

40 Pick axes

- 40 Iron spades
- 3 whip sawes
- 3 Iron crows
- 10 Crab handspicks
- 6 Linstocks with match
- 2 casks wadding
- 1 coil white rope
- 1 coil tarrd rope
- 1 cask nails & spikes
- 1 coil 4 inch rope
- 6 Reams cartridge paper
- 4 formers
- 1 Box grape shott N^o. 3
- 1 d^o d^o 4
- 1 d^o d^o 1
- 2 sides of leather
- 22 Paint Polins
- 54 Padles 17 Poles

Cannon

2:32 pounders

2:18 d^o

2:12 d^o

4: 6 d^o

[] Hows

Stores Remaining [in Albany] Aug^t y^e 6, 1755

Gun powder 181 Barrels

Axes 484

shovels 121

Paint Polen 28

sheep sckins 12

Cask spades

Budge Barrels 13

Cartridge paper..... 6 Reams

Pick Axes 50

Iron crows 2

spade handles	106
whip sawes	2
Trowels	12
cannon ball all sent except what is on board y ^e sloop being 100. 42 pounders	
Copper Ladles	2
spunges & rammers . . .	19
spare rammer head ^s . . .	3
Casks nails	2
Crabb handspiks	9
part of a Barrel tallow	
5 hundred Wa ^t Iron	
Boxes Grape shott . . .	4
1 Box Partridge shott	
setting Poles	65
Padles	

On board y^e sloop Harris¹ Mast^r.

100. 42 Pound shott	
2 Royals & beds	
1 Hozit ² & carriage	
50 Barrels Pisttol powder	
27 d ^o d ^o d ^o	
24 sheep sckins	
12 calfe sckins	
2 Tearces W[a]dding	
3 chests containing sundry ^s .	
at Mr. Emerson ^s . 1 Cask of match with powder horn & wires	
39 Battows	

The above acct of store^s. remaining in Albany Augst. y^e 6.
1755 delivered to His Honour Major General Johnson as ^{tho}
order

RICH^d. SMITH []

¹Or Hanis.

²Howitzer.

TO JOHN WATTS

Df.¹Albany <6 Aug^t 1755>

DEAR SIR

Both the Sums of Money mentioned to <be> sent with your favours of the 30 past & 2 Inst <I> have received & come out right.

The great variety of Gold Coins by the first are somewhat puzzling & I am afraid some of 'em will be difficult to get off.

You will please to get the Monies in as fast as you can, if I want more speedily I will endeavour to put off a Bill upon you & will take care it shall not be for too large a Sume. You will please to secure the whole by an Acceptance of Gen^l. Shirley's draft, that step if not already done should not I think be delayed.

Gov^r. Shirley has greatly distressed me, by his Proceedings in opposition to me relating to the Indians, & brought upon me as well as himself a very heavy additional Expence, besides a confusion amongst the Indians w^{ch} I fear will be Prejudicial on all sides.

I go to the Camp this Evening & hope to march with the last Division the day after tomorrow. Let no one imagine any time is lost & let not People's Imaginations & wishes out run Possibilities. had I time & were there a necessity for entering into particulars, I could easily convince that not a moment has been wasted w^{ch} was in my Power to save. The last of the Artillery stores are but this day landing. No one is more sensible than I am of the Importance of Dispatch, & the most Sanguine dos not burn with more Impatience. I cannot be every where. I give strict orders, I entreat, I animate.

Four of the 18 p^{ds}. I shall leave at Albany & I take but about a months Provisions. More must follow. I hear not where the New Hampshire Forces are, somewhere on their March, neither

¹ By W^raxall.

Provided with Battoes &c. &c. amazing Conduct. Separate & <Inde>pendent Bodies are but ill Calculated for Expeditions of these kinds. I have 40 or 50 Indians now with me. I expect more are gone cross the Country & hope I shall see a number at the Carrying Place.

Please to communicate to the Gov^r. with my respectful Salutations this last Paragraph. One of the 32 p^d Carriages broke today drawing along the Center Iron Pin of the fore part snapt like Glass & is execrable Iron & the maker ought to be punished & not paid. I hope the others will hold out but I fear these are perplexing Matters & make Delays. I am Dear Sir

Your very hum serv^t

To JOHN WATTS Esq^r

ACCOUNTS OF BATEAUX

Albany Augst ye 6, 1755

Sundry Acct^s. of Battows deliverd in on Acct of Major General Johnson

Dan^l Bratt

1 Large Battow	£9..0..0	
2 .. D ^o . @ £6..10..	13..0..0	
3 .. D ^o . @ 5..—..	15..0..0	£37.. 0..0

Cor^{nls}. Van Ness

4 Battows	@ £6..10..	26.. 0..0
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Stephen Van Schaack

3 Battows	@ £5..0..0..	15.. 0..0
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Hendrick Bogart

1 Battow	@ £5..10..	
2 D ^o	@ 5..—..	15..10..0

Jn^o Ouder Kirk

2 Battows	@ £7..	
8 Small	@ 5..	54.. 0..0

Jacob Bogart

1 Battow	@ £9..		
1 D ^o	@ 6..		
1 D ^o	@ 5..	20..	0..0

Jn^o. Van Denberg

2 Battows	@ £6..	10..	
2 D ^o	@ 5.....	23..	0..0

Gerret Marcellus

1 Battow	@ £7..		
3 D ^o	@ 5..	22..	0..0

Lewis Antwerp

6 Battows	@ £5..	30..	0..0
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Gerret Lansing

2 Battows	@ £5..	3..	
1 Large Nest Battow.	@ 9..	12..	
painting Acct.....	1..	5..	
4 oars	0..	12..	
3 Large setting Padles			
Irond	—..	7..	6..
6 setting Poles with			
Iron	—..	10..	6..
6 short Padles	—..	6..	0..
		22..	19..0

Anthony Bratt

1 Battow		9..	0..0
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Jacob Ginsebeck

1 Battow		6..	10..0
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£320..19..0

Padles & Poles not delivered are making

TO JAMES DE LANCEY

L. S.

SIR

Albany 8 Aug^t 1755

I am favoured with your Honours Letter of the 3^d. Aug^t. General Shirleys Conduct with regard to the Indians is in my Opinion extremely Culpable, will not only be very hurtful to the public Interest, but in the end obstruct even his own Designs. My Character & Conduct has been villified to them without any regard either to Facts or Truth. By a Lavish Bribery, a constant Licentious Festivity, by Falsehoods, by Flattery, by threats, they have raised such a Confusion, such Corruption, such extravagant Expectations, amongst the Ind^s as not only greatly embarrasses the public service at present, Loads it with many great & additional Expenses, but will I fear be of lasting ill Consequence. Their sachems have sent me down word, that they are all in Amazement, that they cannot comprehend what is the meaning of these opposite Proceedings they desire I will clear up & explain matters to them, that their Castles are tore to pieces with Discord Faction & riot &c. &c. Mr Shirley told them he had given me £5000 Ster^s for them, that pay & appointments were ordered them, w^{ch} I had concealed from their knowledge. That it was him made a great Man of me. At the Lower Mohock Castle Lydius told them if they woud not go with Gov^r. Shirley, the Fort w^{ch} was building for them should be stopt. Gov^r. Shirley pressed all the Workmen to go with him & the Fort lays now unfinished to the great dissatisfaction of those Indians. I had promised the workmen employed, that they should not be pressed upon any other service while they were at work there. They complain most heavily.

Mr. Alexander pressed two of my own Servants in the most Insolent manner, I had sent them up for part of my Baggage. They run away afterwards indeed & so I am not distressed by it. These are some of the outlines of a Picture w^{ch}. I believe has scarce a parralel. I am possessed of very Authentick Evidence

& I hope if I live to draw out this ——— Scene in its full & just colours. Lydius & his associates attacked Arent Stevens either at my House or at the Mohock Castle, (I forget w^{ch}.) & demanded in the most impudent strain of authority to know what his Orders were from me, & treated the old Man with such Insolent rudeness as obliged him to strip & challenge to fight any of them. In short the Behaviour of these Scoundrels, is a reproach to Power & a Lawless assault upon the dignity of Gov^t.

The Conojohery Fort is luckily Finished and I have about £200 to pay Justice Fry the undertaker for w^{ch}. I have this day drawn on your Honour in fav^r. of Isaac Switz. I will give you the exact Acc^t. hereafter.

To morrow Morning I expect to march with the last Division. I have been much retarded by the Battoes w^{ch} were all Leaky & wanted to be recaulked. We want pitch and Oakum w^{ch} I beg may be sent up to follow us.

I have 50 Ind^s. now at the Camp & in spite of all the Disadvantages I have lain un<der> I hope to have 250 or 300 at the Carrying Place. No News of the New Hampshire Troops.

I shall by every Opportunity acquaint Your Honour with my Motions, and I hope with God's Blessing by & by to send you the good News.

I am most respectfully Sir Your Honours Most Obed^t hum Serv^t.

W^m JOHNSON

To Gov^r. DeLANCY

INDORSED: Gen^l. Johnson's Letter to Gov^r. DeLancey 8 Aug^t.

FROM SPENCER PHIPS

*Df.*¹

Boston 8. Aug. 1755

SIR

It is with pleasure that I inform you by Express that the Assembly of this Province continue their zeal for his Majestys

¹ In Massachusetts Archives.

service & in a particular manner for that branch of it which they are more immediately concerned to promote, the Expedition against Crown Point and I have this day signed a Vote for raising Eight hundred men including the 500 formerly ordered to be enlisted & in readiness upon an emergency, and as fast as each Company shall be compleat they shall march in order to their following the other troops under your command. I shall send forward advice of this Vote to the other Governments concerned & doubt not but they will in some proportion add to their troops likewise. I thought it necessary to give you immediate intelligence hereof as it may possibly have some influence upon your measures. I am

Sr Y^o m^t. Obed^t Serv^t.

MAJOR GEN^L JOHNSON

P. S. I pray you so Favour me with your Opinion by the Return of the Express, Whether you apprehend it necessary that the new raised Forces sh^d. march to Albany, or whether they may proceed with Safety to join you by any other Road. And I desire you to give Orders to M^r. Commissary Emerson, in case Battoes sh^d. be necessary to provide sufficient for Eight hundred men. I hope some of the Company will be ready to march by the time the Express returns.

FROM BENJAMIN FRANKLIN¹

Philad^a Aug^t. 11, 1755

SIR

I received your Fav^r of the 1st Instant, and have forwarded the Letter to Capt. Orme. M^r Pownall is gone to New York, and I return his Letter ☞ this Day's Post. I shall acquaint the Governor, as you desire, that the Records of your Proceedings are with M^r Banyar.

¹ In American Antiquarian Society.

Our Assembly have sent up a Bill to give £50,000 to the Kings Use, of which part might be apply'd to reinforce you, if the Bill could pass. But as it is proposed to tax the Proprietary Estate in common with the other Estates of the Province, 'tis said the Governor will refuse his Assent: Thus, from petty private Considerations in particular Colonies, general publick Good is obstructed & prevented; which shows more and more the Necessity of our proposed Union.

Every body here prays for your Success, but none more sincerely, than

Sir,

Your most obedient
humble Servant
B FRANKLIN

GEN^L JOHNSON

FROM BENNING WENTWORTH

A. L. S.

Portsmouth Aug^t <14th. 1755>

SIR,

It gives me the greatest concern to find by your letter of the 2^d Instant, that C<oll^o.> Blanchard had neither Joyned you, nor given any intelligence of his Situation, that he might have received your orders for his future Conduct, more especially as he must have then been within a days march of Hudsons river; This Neglect appears the more inexcusable to me, Since he had before met with great delays, it <is> now no time to enquire into the reasons; the Season is far Spent & we must look forward, but it will be the Subject of my Attention in a proper time.

I have taken unwearied pains <in> raising this regiment, & it was the earliest Compleated in the whole Expedition, but there seems to be a fatallity attending every Measu<re> that I have taken to render the forces usefull, which must be Attributed to the Scanty provision at first made by the Assembly and the Conduct

of the Com^{tee} Since, these Impedimen^{<ts>} Have created me the Utmost uneasiness & my firm attachment to the Common Cause must finally have been defeated, had not I fortunately laid my hands on £500 Ster^s to supply Coll^o. Blanchard with at Albany, & should any further Supply be yet wanted, he has my orders to acquaint me therewith, & he shall have an Immediate provision made, for every thing requisite for the use of his Regiment, even to the half of my private fortune, if I cant obtain it otherwise.

I have not further to Add, but to wish you Success in the Important Enterprize you have so generously Engaged in, & to assure you that I am with great truth & Esteem S^r Your most obedient, hum^{le} Servant,

B. WENTWORTH.

MAJOR GENERAL JOHNSON

INDORSED: Gov^r. Wentworth's letter — 14 Aug^t. 1755. recd
29 d^o. Ans^d.

TO SEVERAL GOVERNORS

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar by Johnson's letter of August 15th, from the Great Carrying Place, to the several governors, urging reinforcement (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:678-80; Q, 2:395-96). Not destroyed in the fire.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

New York, <15 August 1755.>

DEAR SIR

It seems to me almost an Age since I wrote or heard from you. The last Letter you favoured me with was I think of the 1st. Instant by Captain Winne. I acquainted you with the opinion of the Council on the Report that our two Ind^t. Comp^s. were to be left at Fort Cumberland; M^r Shirley agrees so far with that opinion as to order General Dunbar with the two British Regi-

ments to march to Albany either to reinforce the Niagara or C. Pt. Expedⁿ. as he shall think proper to direct Saying that as our Comp^s. were, as Mr. Dunbar had resolved, to be left at Wills Creek, and the other Forces on their Way, it would <be> inconvenient to send back a detachment from the Regiments to relieve them: I expected they, if any, would be left, had there not been any Reason for it, and therefore it is needless to observe that there is little in the Reason. I am told however they are on their March with the rest, and that Col. Dunbar, Mr. Dinwiddie & Mr. Sharpe have had some Words upon it. We shall know in a few days whether he will send them back on Mr. Shirley's Orders. Be that as it will, I cannot give into the opinion yet, that any of them will be at Albany time enough to reinforce you, tho' this is one of the reasons for not preceding further on the Bill for detaching 400 volunteers which was read the second time in Council after being past by the assembly — it was also urg'd as a Reason that the Gov^r. of Conn^t. was oblig'd to write to Gen^l. Lyman to know if a reinforcement was wanted before he could proceed to raise the 500 Men voted by that Government; that Jersey were raising no Men for Niagara, and that 't<was> uncertain what Massachusetts were doing. That the other Colonies were not sending reinforcements, I thought was rather a Reas<on> why we should. The Council wanted the Bill amended and the Assembly were glad of this opportunity to prevent its passing. The Council seem'd inclinable to defer it. And accordingly the Assembly are adjourned til the 26th. In the mean time if the other Governments raise Men to join you perhaps we may follow their Example. Make no dependence <on> it, as> I think it will be too late in the Season. <I do not> think the few Men the French had some time ago at Crown Pt. any reason to infer that they will not make a Stand there. I think it rather the contrary and that they are preparing all the Strength they can to march or not as they find your Motions. You will probably know the certainty of this before you reach Tienonderoga, tho I expect you'll see the Enemy between Hudson's

River Carrying Place & where you take water again. You have many Men that are good Marksmen, some used to Indian Fighting, these if possible should be known from those who know little or perhaps nothing of either, who you may be assured will run on the first Attack, and should therefore be as usefully employed otherwise as they can be. Whatever Obstacles you meet with, or be the Enemy ever so strong, I promise my self you will reach Tienonderoga, which appears to me a very proper Place to build a good log Fort 18 feet thick at least (if cannon can be bro^t. ag^t. it) with Earth fill'd in between, in the manner the French build. This must be supplied by means of other Forts to keep open the Communication. I will mention the Places I think of, tho I confess myself pretty much unacquainted with the Situation of the Country. Maps give us some Idea. At the Carrying Place on Hudson's River should be a large one, capable of containing all the Supplies necessary to be kept there for the use of that and the other Forts, which I think we should have at, the South End of Lake St. Sacrament. & where you enter the Southern Bogh. The wood Creek is stop'd I am told or one might be necessary there too. If there be time for building these Forts (if we are disappointed in the principal design) good Garisons placed in them and a few hearty Indians in each, will prevent the Enemy gaining Intelligence by their Indians of what we may be doing next Spring, and facilitate the Reduction of it then, as there is very little doubt of our attempting it then should they be superior to us now. I send you a few Copies of our Proclamation for a Fast,¹ imagining the New England men may

¹ This proclamation is in the N. Y. Colonial Manuscripts, 81:106, in the State Library, and was damaged though not destroyed by the fire. A transcription is given below:
(Seal.)

By the Honble James DeLancey Esqr. his Majesty's Lieutenant Governor and Commander in chief in and over the province of New York and the Territories depending thereon in America.

A Proclamation

Whereas all human means will prove Insufficient to preserve or restore the publick Peace and prosperity of States and Nations, without the

think it proper to observe it in some way or other, not by abstaining from Labour however whatever they may do from Victuals. <Tis best to humour them, & it may perhaps be thought> decent that some notice be taken of it. Garrison <is arrived from> London w^{ch}. he left the 16th. June. St. Charles Hardy <could not leave> England it's said till July. Several People on board Gar<rison are> down with the small Pox. The Vessel performs Quarentine, <& the> People are to continue on Mr.

Gracious protection and favour of Divine Providence. And in as much as from our manifold Sins and Provocations we have reason to fear God is displeased with us, by his permitting a Neighbouring Nation in conjunction with their merciless and savage allies, Treacherously and Perfidiously to enter our Borders and encroach upon the Territories of our Gracious Sovereign, and even to repulse a considerable Number of his Majesty's Troops sent for the defence of his American Subjects, and the Recovery of what is his undoubted right. And since the preservation and happiness of the British Colonies together with all our inestimable Liberties and privileges, Civil and sacred, depend upon the success of those enterprizes now carrying on by his Majesty's Forces, which cannot be hoped for without the Divine Assistance, and which we cannot be Qualified for without a deep and sincere Repentance and return to our Duty I have therefore thought fit and do by and with <the> advice of his Majesty's Council for this Provi<nce,> issue this Proclamation, hereby ordaining and appointing that Wednesday the twenty-sev<enth> Instant be set apart and observed for the Solemn Humiliation of ourselves before Almighty God, <with> prayer and fasting to supplicate the pardon of our many Greivous Sins thro the Mediation of our blessed Redeemer, to deprecate the Calamities we have reason to fear, and to implore his blessing and protection on our Gracious Sovereign and all his Subjects. That so God may mercifully return and heal the breach he has made upon us, and inspire our Troops with undaunted Courage and Magnanimity, and their Leaders with wisdom and Valour, and grant a favourable issue to those enterprizes which are undertaken for our common safety and preservation And all his Majesty's Subjects of this Province, are hereby strictly charged and Commanded, to observe the said day with the utmost decency and Reverence, by abstaining from all servile Labour, and attending the publick Worship of God, which is hereby likewise directed and enjoined to be perform'd in all the churches Chappels and other places of divine Worship within this province. And all Rectors Pastors Curates and all other Min-

Kennedys Island,¹ and such Precautions are taking that must prevent the distempers spreading. The Indians Presents are on board. They are raising Men at Bost<on> I hear, some say to reinforce you, I'm inclinable to believe they are intended for the Nova Scotia Army (if not both) who it is said are in conjunction with our Fleet to frighten the Louisburghers into a Surrender, if they are in that distress for the want of Provisions which we seem to have pretty good Accounts of, and our Fleet keep a sharp look out, in order to prevent Supplies, it is highly probable they may be reduced to this Extremity by famine. It is said, that the Adm^l. had discovered by the French Papers that they intended to take Halifax and Anapolis, which might be accomplished by some day in July, on which day Warr was to be declared in France. And that the Admiral declared on this that he would not see England till he anchored in Louisburgh. I suspect we may have some design that way, Mr. Lawrence writing to Mr. Phips, that the French there are in so great want of Provisions, that if the Prohibition on Prov^s. continues two months longer, & our Fleet keep cruising, he questions if they will not be oblig'd to give Mr. Boscowen the Keys. They

isters of the Gospel within the same, are hereby directed and required to Govern themselves accordingly and to give notice thereof by reading this Proclamation in their several and respective Churches and places of publick worship to their several Congregations in due time.

Given under my hand and Seal at Arms at Fort George in the City of New York the Sixth day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and fifty-five and in the twenty ninth year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Second by the Grace of God of Great Britain France and Ireland King Defender of the Faith &c^a.

JAMES DELANCEY

By his Honour's Command.

Gw. Banyar D. Secr^y.

God save the King.

¹Bedlow's island.

write from London that Warr depends on the operations this way, & that if the French Fleet are not molested, there will be no Warr in Europe, if they are attacked, then inevitable. Mr. Pownall gave me the perusal of your Letter to him of the 31st. July I think the date is. He disapproves highly of the methods taken by the Gentleman you complain of, and tells me if he goes home, he shall represent things as they really appear to him, without regard to any Connections he may be supposed to have, being determined to enter into no Party, but to make his Inquiries and Informations subservient only to the publick Good, so far as they relate to publick Measures. He will I dare say do you all the kind offices you can expect of a sincere Friend, and 'twould I believe give him great Pleasure to remove any disadvantageous Impressions at home w^{ch}. a misrepresentation of Facts may possibly occasion, at least you may expect such will be sent, to excuse what must on an impartial State appear very culpable: and therefore it may be of use to you to furnish him with the proper materials. I will take some opp^y. to get <you a Copy of> the Minutes of Alexandria. You'l not <want them till> your return. Mr. Pownall has read the Book of your <conferences> with the Indians, which you seem to referr him to, by telling <him> they are in my hands. He was very anxious to know what Effect that part of your Speech might have had on the Indians, which you delivered them in consequence of the additional Instruction. I have not read them through, but suspect he did not find as much on that Subject as he expected, as he has said nothing to me of it since. I never knew before I saw Evans's Map where the Beaver Hunting was & little expected to find it there, on the North side the Lake Erie. Mr. DeLancey is to be appointed chief Justice again, by the King's Commission, but whether during good Behavior or with any additional Salary or not I cannot tell. My time will not permit me to write Mr. Wraxall to acq^t. him with the Receit of the Indian Conferences, please to present my Compliments to him & tell him I shall observe his Directions. May every good attend you, and particularly

Success in your present Undertaking which I believe will counter-balance the Evils you have met with in the pursuit of it. I am
Dr. Sr. your affectionate & very humble Servant

GW BANYAR

GENERAL JOHNSON

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Banyars letter August 15th. 1755.

TO HANSEN AND CUYLER

*Df.*¹

Camp at the G<reat Carrying Place,>

August 15. 1755

GENTLEMEN

Colonel Blanchard who Commands the New Hampshire Troops acquaints me that he finds such Difficulties in obtaining that Colonys proportion of the Pensilvania Provisions that his March is thereby stopped.

If you have those Provisions in your Hands and by refusing to deliver him the aforesaid Proportion, the Junction of those Troops with the others here be retarded, or that it should lay Col^o Blanchard under the Necessity of Marching his Troops back again, You will please to take Notice that all the future Consequence will be imputable to your Scrupulous Obstinacy.

I hereby inform You and give you Notice that the Speedy Junction of those Troops are absolutely Necessary for the good of His Majesty's Service and that if we are deprived of their Assis<tance> it may be of the most fatal Consequence to the Success of the present Expedition, the Welfare and Security of these Colonies.

I am Gentlemen Your Verry Hum^l Serv^t.

TO MESS^{RS}. HANSEN & CUYLER

INDORSED: Letter to Hansen & Cuyler Commissarrys.

¹ By W^raxall.

MINUTES OF A COUNCIL OF WAR

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 45 by minutes of a council of war, held at the Great Carrying Place, August 15th, on the subject of reinforcements (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:680-81; Q, 2:396-97). Not destroyed in the fire.

TO JOSEPH BLANCHARD

*Df.*¹

Head Quarters Camp at the Flatts ² *16 Aug^t 1755.*

SIR

As the most speedy Junction possible of Your Reg^t. with the rest of the Troops rendevoused at this Camp under my Command is very necessary for the Good & Success of the present Service. You are to use y^r. best Endeavours to get Provisions & other necessary Stores for y^r. said Reg^t. with all possible Dispatch & with the same to proceed to this Camp, or elsewhere to join our Troops and as the River is too low for Loaded Battoes to come hither, I advise & desire you will Transport y^r. Provisions & Stores by Land & march with the utmost Expedition. Please in case of need to apply to Sybrant Van Schaak Esq^r. who has my Warrant for impressing Waggon &c. and upon y^r. Application to him I do hereby order & direct him to impress for you a suff^t. number of Waggon. I am Sir Y^r &c.

TO COLONEL JOSEPH BLANCHARD

Commanding officer of

The New Hampshire Troops

¹ By Wraxall.

² Evidently a slip. Johnson was at the Great Carrying Place on the 16th.

FROM THOMAS POWNALL¹*N York Aug. 16th. 55.*

DEAR SIR

As nothing gave me more Pleasure, when I first heard it that Indian Affairs, were putt upon a true foundation & firm Basis & were to become a Regular Superstructure, the Management of Which was to be left to you, & as that was highly encreased when y^e Event of your late treaty so highly confirmd every great & good consequence that was expected from it, So nothing ever gave me More uneasiness than when I first understood, the shocking & very dangerous Division & confusion that is arising amongst them.— You know so well my Sentiments of Indian Affairs, & are so thoroughly convinced of my freindship for You, that it wou'd be here needless to say All, that it woud not perhaps be now proper to say. What is more material to You, I will tell You what, as a private person, I am able to collect of y^e Great Ones sentiments of these Matters by which You will in some measure guess upon what Foundation Your own weight rests. And lett me venture to tell You that Your Interest depends intirely upon your own usefull & necessary merit, & that merit being made known by one single private Person, however 'tis now known in a public authenticated manner to y^e King & Government. & rests wholly upon its own merit. Go on therefore, Sir, to be Usefull to be necessary to be as greatly serviceable as You have hitherto been & Your Country must wish to employ your Services.— They Have thorough knowledge in every particular of y^e Abuse & Mismanagement of Indian Affairs to this time. they are sensible of it, they are resolved to Alter it.— They hope to have Indian Affairs provided for by a General Fund, y^e disposal & Management of Which (to y^e purposes to which it is appropriated) as well as y^e Application of all the Kings occasional Presents, the Domination & Direction of All Smiths Artificers Interpreters &c & y^e Direction of all their

¹ In New York Historical Society.

Affairs to be putt into Your hands in y^e same Manner & with y^e Same Allowance as in last War—& all this from 1 Your great Merit & Service, 2 Your Interest Freindship & Connection & Knowledge of Indian Affairs 3. the Indians own desire—I wish, (it woud be much for y^e General Service as well as your own) You woud send me a Sort of Estimate with what kind of annual Summ, specifyeing y^e Particulars, You coud carry on this Indian Administration.— While I am writing this a thought Strikes my mind tell me if I be Right excuse me if I be wrong. That there shoud be a general Store kept at y^e *Fire-Place* for y^e Presents, that they shoud not be deliverd & squanderd away in an heap as has been usual, but with Prudence & Judgment as proper & necessary Occasions & Junctures require. many other Regulations arise naturally from this cheif One but it woud be impertinent to mention them to You. Keep up Your Interest with y^e Indians & Use their Services as youstead,¹ to y^e common Cause of your Country. I have read your Indian Treaty & think any Minister of y^e First Rate might be proud of so well & wisely conducted an Affair.—

Lett me just list to you further that Your Removing y^e *Fire Place* from Albany is coincident with y^e Sentiments of the Great Ones.— I suppose You guessd, if You was not sure, from what hands y^e Additional Instruction which follow'd you came, viz mentioning y^e Deed² by which y^e English became guaranty to y^e Indians for their Lands &c, & putt y^e Expedition upon y^e Footing of Comeing not to possess their Lands & take y^e Dominion of them, but to drive y^e French off who by fraud & violence had encroach'd upon them, to destroy their Forts & build such others as shoud protect their Lands to their own Use according to y^e True Spirit & Tenor of our Alliance & Covenant Chain—I shoud them y^e Deed, Explaind y^e State of y^e Case, as it arose from y^e Indians own Ideas of it, & Dictated every

¹ As they are of avail to you.

² Bigot to the French Minister, October 23, 1755.

Word of the Instruction. Upon which y^e General¹ said this by God is giving some reason for what we are going to do, & I added not only a *Reason*, Sir but a *Right*. I should be glad to hear from You What Effect y^e giving y^e Treaty this Turn, had upon y^e Indian Affairs.—

I do not, I own, as Your Expedition is now circumstand & has been Delay'd so long, as y^e French are so well prepared to oppose You, I do not expect much Success. Yet I hope & wish for many Reasons You will have Success. You must excuse my mentioning one thing, it arises not only from a freindly fear for You, but from an Anxious concern for y^e Public Service. So much Depends upon Your Life & Safety. It woud not be Courage much less Conduct it woud y^e highest imprudence to hazard your Person more than is Absolutely necessary Remember, y^e Direction not y^e Execution is expected is demanded of You as a Duty you are most solemnly engaged to.

If You had Your Success at Crown Point ever at hazard This is not a time to run any hazard, Do not therefore make an Offering (as has been too often done) & a Sacrifice of y^e Safety of y^e Country & the real Good of y^e Common Cause, to y^e visionary One of Honor & Heroism. If You cannot hope to succede in the Proposed End of Your Expedition, woud it not be, for y^e present a Great Point Gain'd to build a Fort in some Place that might for y^e present cover y^e Country & from whence we might in future when we are better & Stronger appointed, annoy y^e Enemy, & so at length carry y^e Point, As You know how sincerely all I say comes from Freindship & an unaffected Love to y^e Public, You who mean y^e same, will excuse it.

I have some thoughts of going to England, I know the use I can be of there to y^e Common Cause, & to all who, are really & sincerely freinds to it. I woud wish therefore to give me more weight (for y^e more weight I have y^e more service I can do) that by Letters I shall carry with me I was referred to, I shall hope to carry letters from You in which You will be so good to

¹ Braddock, at Alexandria, Va.

referr to me I will lett You know when I am determind upon going.—

I beg my Respects to Cap^t Wraxal & Cap^t Ayres.— I have made a little extract from your record as far as relates to Pensylvania, & sent it to M^r Penn, to give to Gov^r Morris & Peters, that they may see how honorably You have acted towards them, And that they may in return do you y^e same honor & freindship.—

I am Dear Sir

Your most sincere

& faithfull Serv^t &

Freind T POWNALL.

INDORSED: M^r. Pownals letter
August 16th. 1755 —

FROM TIMOTHY RUGGLES¹

D. S.

August 16th, 1755

A Report from the Feild Officer of the [Day.]

Parole Lyman

According to Publick Orders, have myself [] with such officers as I tho't proper, pitch'd upon proper places to erect a Magazine for powder & to build a Hospital on and upon Examining y^e Ground are of Opinion that the best place for a Magazine is at the south East Corner of y^e Fort at about six

¹ Timothy Ruggles was born in Rochester, Mass., October 20, 1711 and died in Nova Scotia August 4, 1795. He was a graduate of Harvard College, practised law with distinction, was a judge of common pleas, a justice of the superior court of the province, a member of the general court many years and two years speaker of the house, a delegate to the stamp act congress, over which he presided, and in 1774 a councilor. He commanded a regiment in the Lake George campaign, and was a brigadier general under Amherst. In the Revolution Ruggles's sympathies were with the mother country, and his property was confiscated in consequence. The British government made him a grant of land in Nova Scotia, on which he passed the remainder of his days.

Rods distance; & for the Hospital have pitch'd upon y^e Ground between y^e Blacksmith's shop & y^e Connecticut Tents.

Publick proclamation has been made that no person shall presume to fire off his Peice without leave from the Feild Officer. Proclamation has been made forbiding all persons to sell or give any Rum or other strong Liquors to any Indian & that no soldier goes over to the Island where the General is encampt without being Order'd by their proper Officers, when they [] first to come to head Quarters. The two foregoing Orders have been wrote out in a large legible hand, & fix'd up at the Head of each Reg^t. A serg^t. from Each Reg^t. is appointed to take care that their respective Encampments be kept Clean

A Report from the Officer of y^e Guard belonging to the Detachment formerly Comanded by Maj^r. Gen^l. Lyman.

Sir

Number of prisoners, & by whom confin'd — for Deserting y^e Majesty's service, Job Andrews, Clement Neff; Robert Andrews & Dan^l. Wright. for firing their peices Sam^l. Adams & David Tow[] all of Gen^l. Lyman's Reg^t. Tim. Fletcher comitted by Serg^t. Gates & Elijah Stoddart for firing their peices — belonging to Col^o. Ruggles's Reg^t.

[] officer of y^e Day Andrew Ward officer of y^e [Guard]

Nothing Extraordinary happen'd the last twenty four hours. no Prisoners. All is well

Phillip Lord officer of y^e Guard

Augst. 16th. 1755

To Col^o. Ruggles

at Twelve o'Clock in y^e Night I went y^e Rounds & nothing Extraordinary was found.

TIM^o. RUGGLES

To the Hon^{ble}. WILLIAM JOHNSON Esq
General of y^e Army

INDORSED: Col. Ruggles's Report as Feild officer of the Day
16 Aug^t. 1755.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

Sunday 17 Aug^t. $\frac{1}{2}$ past 12D^R SIR

I can only tell you I wrote you on Friday <last> since which Gen^l Shirley has altered Dunbar's Orders, <a> Copy of which he says he'll send M^r DeLancey. This was done upon the Contents of Dispatches from Gove^r Dinwiddie, but what they were I dont know. I imagine and indeed it cant well be otherwise, that we are to proceed ag^t Duquesne. I doubt yet if you'l have our 400 Men. You see what the Gov^r. writes to Col. Blanchard, whom you should rath<er> furnish with Provisions out of the General Stock of all the Colonies concerned. I have seen your L^re of the 8th. to the Gov^r; So has M^r Pownall. Write to him if you have time on the Subject of the Complaint contain<ed> in that Letter, what you write to M^r. P. let it be in your own Hand Writing. he may want to show them at home, with any other Proofs you may think proper <to> furnish him with. The Gov^r sends you a Copy of the Minutes you wanted without mentioning it in his L^re which Copy I have Examined. You are acq^d that 800 Men are raising in Massa to reinforce you. Oakum & Pitch, which articles you'l find among the List of Particulars Massachusets was to furnish, will be sent you by the next opp^y

Yours

GW BANYAR

GEN^L JOHNSON

TO JOSEPH BLANCHARD

*Df.*¹*Camp at the Great Carrying Place
18 Aug^t. 1755.*

SIR

As the Massachusetts & Connecticut Commissarys are directed to send up hither a recruit of Provisions for the Army I desire you will take their Waggon as well as those of the other Provinces who may be ready under the Convoy of your Reg^t. w^{ch}. I hope will be upon marching by that time & all your obstacles removed. I am Sir

Your very hum serv^t.

To COLONEL BLANCHARD

of the New Hampshire Reg^t.INDORSED: Gen^{ls}. Letter to Colonel Blanchard.

FROM PETER MIDDLETON

*A. D. S.**[August 18, 1755]*

[Surgeon's list of sick in New York regiment.]

	Sick	Wounded	Dead
[Co]llonell			
Major	1		
Captains	1		
1 st Lieutenants			
2 ^d Lieutenants			
Sergents	3	1	
Drummers	1		
Rank & File.....	47	8	1
	53	9	1

PETER MIDDLETON

¹ By W^raxall.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL OF WAR

D. S.

<Head Quarters Camp at the Great Carrying Place> 18 Aug^t
1755. A. M.

At a Council of War held by Major General John<son,>
Commander in Chief of the Provincial Troops on the present
Expedition, against Crown Point, Pres^t

General Johnson

Maj ^r General Lyman	Col. W ^m . Cockcroft
Col. Tim: Ruggles	Lieu ^t Col. Bagly
Col. Moses Titcomb	Lieu ^t Col. Pomroy
Col. Eph. Williams	Lieu ^t Col. Pitkin
Col. Eliz ^r Goodrich	Lieu ^t Col. Whiting
Col. Chris ^r . Harris	Lieu ^t Col. Cole

Capt. Eyre Chief Engineer Quarter M^r Gen^l. & Director of the
Artillery

Peter Wraxall Secretary.

The General proposed the following Questions

Questⁿ. 1 Whether it be safe & Expedient that One half of the
Artillery & train be sent with the first Division that is to march
in order to cut a Road to the South Bay & there to erect a place
of strength & build Magazines.

Resolved in the Negative against half the Trains march^g
wth ye first Division.

Q. 2. What number of Men may be judged a safe & suff^t
Party to cut a Road from this Place to South Bay, and if that
Road be found practicable, whether it be the most eligible.

Resolved that Fifteen hundred Men are a safe & suff^t Party.

<Third Question.> Who would be the most proper Person
to command the aforesaid Party.

<The Co>uncil of War are Unanimously of Opinion that Major General Lyman is the most proper Person.

The General then laid before the Council of War a Plan of a Fort to be erected near the Spot where Lydius's Trading House now stands for their Opinion & acquainted them that it was agreeable to his Instructions that a Fort should be erected thereabouts. provided said Fort can be compleated without any Delay to the Expedition

Resolved in the affirmative

P. Lyman	Jonathan Bagly
Moses Titcomb	Seth Pomeroy
Eph Williams	John Pitkin
Elizur Goodrich	Nathan Whiting
Christ ^r . Harris	Edw ^d . Cole
W ^m . Cockcroft	Will: Eyre

Major General Lyman moved that all the Women in the Camp should be removed from the same & forbid to return. Upon w^{ch} the General put the Question.

Resolved nem Con that they be sent away by the first Conveyance to Albany.

INDORSED: Minutes of Council of War at Camp at Great Carrying Place 18 Aug^t 1755

FROM BENJAMIN BANCROFT AND BENJAMIN WELLS¹

Fort Nicholson August 19th. 1755

The Return of the provision belonging to Connecticutt Under
our Care as Commissarys for the Two Regiments.

55 bb Bread	4 bags D ^o
30 D ^o Rhum	5 Hundred w ^t Lead
30 D ^o Pork	13 bb pease
18 D ^o molasses	19 bags of D ^o
12 D ^o Beef	2 bb Rice
12 D ^o Samp	3 D ^o Sugar
2 D ^o Indian meal	3 D ^o Oatmeal
1 Tierce Indian Corn	7 bb powder
2 D ^o Beans	BENJA. BANCROFT
4 bb Roqueheague	BENJA. WELLS

INDORSED: Connecticut Commissarey Return from Camp at
Great Carrying Place. 19 Aug^t.

FROM JOHN DIES

A. L. S.

<New York, Aug^t ye 19th 1755.

SIR>

By his Honour's orders I have Ship'd <you by Capⁿ>
Luycas Van Vegten three hundred w^t of oakem Two Barrils
of Pitch an as I Don't Know whether you have Caulking Irons,
I have Sent you a Doz I have Directed them to the Care of
Mes^s Schuyler and Depoyster, and Desired them with all posable
Dispatch to Send them up to you, we hear by the Last Sloop
from Albany of your Safe arival att the Caring Place, which
hope is True, by what Little I Know of the Route you Intend
to Take it Seems Cleer to me, that the Enemy will meet you with

¹ A. D. S. of Bancroft, D. S. of Wells.

their whole Force and Polesey where you are to Land, Lett it be near or att Som Distance from the Fort now To Favour your Landing I think the Folowing Method would be of Greate uce, I would build two or att Least one, Flatt In the Same Mannor as the Ship Carpenter's build their Flatts by which they Creen the Vessels, the Bottoms are made of Squar'd Loggs 8 or nine Inches thick, and as Broad as they Can be had, to Mak the Fuer Joints, and as Long as the Floate is Intended, these are Fastned together by a Square peice of Timber, Notched Down about half the thickness across the Endes of the <Bottom Peices, and Pind or Trunnel'd to Gether, the Sides of this Flott Should be Rais'd, high Enough for a Breast> work to Cover the Men, <with> portholes cut In them att a proper height, and allso holes to Run oars out through, In Souch a Floate you might Mount Some of your Field Peices, Man^d with 40 or 50 Men, it Seems to me a thing of this Sort might be of Servis to Cover the army when Landing, the Loggs they are Made of ought to be of the Softest and Lightes wood you Can Gett, they are Easey made Tight by Caulking them Inside, as it would be Difficult to turn the Bottum up to Doe it outeSide, and if you should fall Short of oakom you Can make them Tight By Driveing Soft wood or Tough Bark or Moss In the Joints, you^l Excuse my Troubling you with this Scheame, if you think it wont answer or you wont want it, as it Springs from a Sinceare Desire of your Sucksess and wellfare, as they are made onley of Sq^r Loggs and you have hands Enough I Dont Doubt but in 2 or 3 Days you may Compleate them.

<I have heard of your being Cross^d In Indian and other afairs, but hope and Dont Doubt but> you^l wade through those Dificulteyes <to y^e> Confusion and Disopointment of your Enemeys if Sucsess atends you, you^l Defey ther Males and Self Intrestness which that it may is the Sinceare wish of S^r your Verey Humble Sar^t

JOHN DIES

Give my Compliments to Capⁿ. Ayr^s Mr. Raxel, Do^r. Midelton Captⁿ Boy^l and all frinds, and as in your Hurrey of bussness I Cant Expect it from you I begg you^d put Some who have more Time on their hands, To Lett me Know where and how you are and what News amonsst you, as you may Easley Guess with what Impations I waite for it

To MAJOR GENERAL JOHNSTON

FROM WILLIAM HUNTER

A. D. S.

General Report of the Sick and Wounded in Colonel Christopher Harris Regiment

*Camp Great Carrieing place
August 19th: 1755*

	Sick	Wounded	Dead
Colonel			
Lieut: Colonel			
Major			
Captains			
1 st . Lieut ^s :			
2 ^d . Lieut ^s :			
Ensigns	1		
Sergents			
Drummers			
[R]ank & file	15	4	
	16	4	

WILL^m. HUNTER

TO STEPHEN HOPKINS

*Df.*¹

*Camp at the Great Carrying Place
20 Aug^t. 1755*

SIR

Colonel Harris is the Bearer of these Lines to your Honour. he has applied to me for leave to go home in order to solicit for Cloathing & some other matters relating to the Reg^t. under his Command & w^{ch}. I believe will be found necessary to be sent them. Upon this Acc^t. & as Lieu^t. Col. Cole is a very active & capable officer I have consented to Col. Harris's going. The Great variety of Buisness in w^{ch} I am engaged will not permit me to be farther particular, but Col. Harris will inform you of those matters w^{ch}. my time will not suffer me to do. I am Sir

Y^r. Honours most Obed^t Serv^t.

INDORSED: Letter to Gov^r. Hopkins of Rhode Island by Col. Harris.

ORDERS CONVENING A COURT MARTIAL

*D.*¹

By the Honourable William Johnson, Esq^r. Major General & Commander in Chief of the Provincial Forces raised on an Expedition against Crown Point.

To Colonel Moses Titcomb Colonel William Cockcroft, Lieutenant Colonel Edward Cole Major Ebenezer Nickols, any Two Captains and one Lieutenant of Colonel Titcomb's Reg^t any Two Cap^{ts} & one Lieu^t of Col. Cockcroft's Regiment and any Two Captains & one Lieu^t of Colonel Harris's Regiment whom the aforesaid Colonels shall appoint. Greet<ing>:

¹ By W^raxall.

Whereas the Judge Advocate of the Troops under my Command hath made a Report to me of Sundry Prisoners now under Confinement in this Camp & that their Crimes come within the Cognisance of a General Court Martial, And Whereas it is essen<tial> to the Good & Success of the Present Expedition that all officers & Soldiers should perform the respective Duties of their several Stations, and that upon their Wilful Disobedience to & violation of His Majestys Articles of War they should be punished according to the Ten<or> of the same; By virtue of the Command conferred on me by the several Provinces & Governments who have raised Troops on the present Expedition, and in compliance with my Duty to maintain support & forward the honour & Success of the same to the utmost of my Power & abilities, I do hereby constitute & appoint You Colonel Moses Titcomb to be President and the other officers abovementioned to be members of a General Court Martial in order to hear, Judge & give Sentence upon such Prisoners as the Judge Advocate of this Army shall arraign before you in w^{ch} you are to the best of your knowledge to govern your Proceedings according to the Laws & <Customs> of His Majesty's Forces in like Cases.

Given under my hand & Seal at the Camp at the
Great Carry<ing> Place this 20th day of August
<1755>

PROCEEDINGS OF GENERAL COURT MARTIAL

*D. S.*¹

*Camp at the Great [Carrying Place]
Wensday the 20th Aug^t 17[55]*

Proceedings of a General Court [] this Day
at about 11 oClock in the Morning

Col. Moses Titcomb Pres^t.

Col. W^m. Cockcroft

Lieu^t Col. Cole

Maj^r. Eben^z. Nickolls

Cap^t John Whipple of Col Titcombs Reg^t.

Cap^t. Edmund Moore of d^o.

Cap^t. Angel of Col. Harris's Reg^t.

Cap^t. Francis of d^o.

Cap^t. Mathews of Col. Cockcrofts Reg^t.

Cap^t. Hall of d^o.

Lieu^t. Parker of Col Titcombs

Lieu^t Thodey of Col. Cockcrofts

Lieu^t. Hunter of Col Harris's

Peter Wraxall Esq^r. Judge Advocate.

The Article of War against Disturbing the Court was read. Next the Generals Warrant constituting the same. Next the Judge Advocate's Commission was read, all by the Judge Advocate who next administered the oaths according to the Articles of War, he was then Swore by the Presd^t.

Prisoner

Esa Noble Lieu^t of Col Pomroys Comp^y. of Col Williams's Reg^t. for supporting & exciting a Mutinous Disposition in certain Soldiers belonging to the aforesaid Comp^y. & speaking Words tending to Mutiny.

¹ Signed by Titcomb, Wraxall, Johnson and Fitch.

The Accusation being read & the Prisoner asked if Guilty or not Guilty

Ans^d. not Guilty & put himself on the Court for Trial.

- 1 Witness Cap^t Sam^l. Robinson of Col Ruggles's Reg^t. sworn. deposes 5th. day of Aug^t. certain Soldiers refused to obey orders. Lieut Noble thinks the Men are on the Strongest side.
2. Witness Lieu^t Davis swore.
3. d^o. Peter Kendal that the Pris^r s^d. they should stand it out & would be of the strongest side
- 4 Elkin Hall. 4 or 5 yards. spoke to he hear 6 or 8 yards. d^o.

Prisoner's Vindication. disclaims any Intention of supporting Mutiny.

Pris^{rs}. Ev^{ce}. John Trask. Then you are really determined to stand it out. did not see any of the former ev^{ce}.

Lieu^t Col. Pomroy swore by the Judge Adv. to the Character sent twice or thrice for him to come & did not come. one s^d. he had seen him & delivered the Message. Afterwards behaved well on the water, but upon Land did not behave so well.

Pris^{rs}. Ev^{ce}. Jonathan Kingsley Clerk to the C^o. that Cap^t Robⁿ. s^d. he had mistook the Pris^{rs}. words & that he was in a heat

Pris^{rs}. Vindication continued.

Lieu^t. Davis deliv^d one of the Orders for Noble to come to his Reg^t. told him Lt. Col Ordered him up Pris^r s^d. he would come when he was ready & twas good living there. Pris^r. much wanted to be upon Duty.

Ensign David Bixby says the same as Jonathan Kingsly.

Vindication continued asked Lieu^t. Davis if any need of him & if he could be of any Service to the Expedition.

The Prisoner and Evidences being withdrawn and the Court Retired The Question was put whether the Prisoner was guilty or not guilty of the Crimes laid to his Charge.

It is the Unanimous Opinion of the Court Martial that he is Guilty And it is the Opinion of the Court [] that as it is the first offence of this Kind [] has come before a General Court Martial [] Prisoner shall as soon as conveniently may [] make at the head of each Regt. a publick [] Audible Acknowledgment of his Crimes with a promise of future good Behaviour & then Discharged to his [] but upon his refusing to comply wth this Sentence to be immediately Cashiered the Service.

MOSES TITCOMB P[rest.]

By order

The Court then Adjourned till tomorrow morning at Eight oClock.

PETER WRAXALL

Judge Advocate

I do approve the above Sentence & order the Feild Officer of the Day for to morrow after acquainting the Prisoner with the said Sentence to see it put in Execution or upon refusal to acquaint me therewith

Head Quarters 22 Aug^t. 1755.

W^m. JOHNSON

Camp att the great Carrying Place 24th: Aug^t. 1755

Then, having acquainted the Prisoner aforementioned with the above Sentence, I caused the Same to be put in Execution by his the said Prisoners making a publick and audible acknowledgment of his Crime with promises of future good Behaviour att the Head of Each Reg^t in Camp and then Discharged him [to] his Duty.

Test: ELEAZ^R. FITCH Field Officer of the D[ay]

INDORSED: Proceedings & Sentence of General Court Martial of Lieut Noble approved by the General & fulfilled by the Delinq^t.

FROM JONATHAN BAGLY

A. D. S.

Camp at the Great Carrying Place Aug^t. 21 [1755]

Camp Guard in Coll. Goodrich's Regiment

S^s Parole New YorkR^d. the Rounds as usual

four Prisoners Confind for following Crimes viz

Michael Sealy and John Morehouse Belonging to Cap^t.
 Samuel Whiting's Comp^a. for fighting — Solomon Morehouse
 Belong^g. to s^d Whiteing for Preventing their Being Parted when
 fighting

Jesse Smith Belonging to Major Foot's Comp^a for Sleeping
 when on Sentry

☞ Daniell Rockwell Leu^t.

To Leu^t. Col: Bagly
 officer of the Day

Camp Guard in Coll. Titcomb's Regiment at the
 Great Carrying Place Augst: 21st: 1755

S^s. Parole New YorkR^d. the Rounds as Usual. No Prisoners.

Nothing Extrodnary, All's Well

☞ Phillips White

To Leu^t. Col Bagly officer
 of the Day

Camp Guard at the Great Carrying Place Augst. 21 [1755]S^s. Parole New York

No Extrodnary's Happen'd Excep^t. 1 Prisoner Conf[ined]
 by Enoch Keney for Swareing — 24 Centreys Con[]
 of Col Cockcroft's Rigement

☞ Jonathan Gibbs
 officer of the Guard

To Leu^t: Col. Bagly
officer of the Day

Parole New York

Went the Rounds Last Night Between the hours of
Eleven & one oClock, found Nothing Extrodinary. All's Well.
Obeyed the Orders of the Day

JONATHAN BAGLY

field officer of the Day

Camp at the Great Carrying Place

Thursday Augst. the 21st. 1755

ADDRESSED: To Gen^l. Johnson

INDORSED: Report from Col Bagly Feild officer of the Day
21 Aug^t.

TO JOSEPH BLANCHARD

Df.

Camp at the great Carrying Place 22 August [1755.]

S^R.

Upon the receipt of your Packett I Summoned a Council of
War, which broke up but a little while ago. I have Only time
to Acquaint You, that they have voted your Regim^t. should be
retain^d In this service and be supplied with Provisions out of the
Common stock and the several Provinces you giveing a Receipt
for the sa[me] in behalf of the Province of New Hampshire
till matters can properly be adjusted, I inclose you my Orders
on the several Com[is]aries at Albany. You will take under
your Convoy such Provision Waggons, as are ready to set out,
and make the Utmost Dispatch in your march hither to Joyn us.
'tis now near 1 oclock at Night, and the express waiting. I hope
to see you soon, and am S^r

Your very Hum^l. Serv^t.

W^m. JOHNSON

To COL: BLANCHARD

INDORSED BY WRAXALL: General Johnson's Letter to Colonel
Blanchard with order to Commiss^{rs}. at Albany.

TO THE COMMISSARIES FOR MASSACHUSETTS, CONNECTICUT,
NEW YORK AND RHODE ISLAND

Df.

*Camp at y^e Great Carrying place
22 Aug^t. 1755*

GENT^N.

By & wth. the advice of y^e Council of War of this Army, I do hereby Order & Direct that you do forthwith furnish Col^o. Blanchard wth. a sufficient quantity of y^e provisions under your care belonging to y^r. Respective Governments for the present subsistence of y^e Regiment under his Comand & for their march from their present Encampment to this place as you will answer y^e Contrary at y^r. Peril, he giving you Receipts for what he shall Demand on Acc^t. of the Gov^t. of New Hampshire

W^m. Johnson

TO MESS^{RS}. MOSES EMERSON, LYMAN, SCHUYLER & DE PEYSTER & CHAMPLIN Comiss^{ys} for y^e Gov^{ts}. of y^e Massachusetts Bay Connecticut, New York & Rhode Island

FROM WOLTER GROESBECK AND GYSBERT OOSTERHOUDT

D. S.

*Camp at the Great Carrying Place
22 Aug^t. 1755.*

Names of Waggoners &c. who have Deserted from this place
with their Waggon & Horses

Tobias Hendrikse ten Eyck of Schenectady's Negro Boy

Jacob Vreest of Albany

Gerrit Noet of Lestiguna (in Albany living)

Isaac de Voe of Albany

Daniel vander Linden of Albany

Thomas Docks of Albany

Derik Heemstraat of Albany

Will. Vrooman of Schenectady
Gerardus Noet of Albany
Hendrik Williams of Albany
Hendrik Melton of Albany
Con^s Corn^{le}. van den Bergh of Albany
Johannis van Loon of Cooksackie
Lawrens van Deusen of Kinderhoek
Jan Teyse huys of d^o.

WOLTER GROESBECK
GYSBERT OOSTERHOUDT

TO SYBRANT G. VAN SCHAIK

*Df.*¹

*Camp [at the] Great Carrying Place
2[2] Aug^t. 1755*

SIR

Inclosed you have a List of the Waggoners Names who have deserted with their Waggon & Horses from this Service

I apply to you as a Magistrate & I direct you as Commissary to take the most speedy & effectual Measures that the Persons named in said List may be taken up & prosecuted according to Law in w^{ch} Mr Corry will upon your Application assist you. if he thinks it be necessary & the best Method of coming at Justice against them to send their names to the Attorney General I would have it done without delay if they cannot be secured in Albany Jail. how fatal these Proceedings will be to the Service to the Welfare & Security of these & the Neighbouring Provinces by retarding & perhaps [over] setting the Service is too plain to need enlargeing upon I am Sir &c.

To SYBRANT VAN SCHAIK Esq^r.

INDORSED: Generals Letter to Van Schaik & Report of
Derserted Waggo[ners.]

¹ By Wraxall.

COUNCIL OF WAR PROCEEDINGS

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar by proceedings of a council of war, held August 22d, 23d, on reinforcements and prosecution of the expedition (printed in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:1000-2; a copy attested by Wraxall and Banyar, but lacking the oath administered to Indian officers which appears in the manuscript in four lines.) Not destroyed in the fire.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

New York <23^d August 1755>

DEAR SIR

I never cease thinking of you except when <I sleep> and sometimes even not then. You have an important <Affair> under your direction, and the whole of your Prudence & Fore<sight> must be employed to defeat an artful Enemy, who depend per<haps> more on their Skill than their numbers. They have a good <deal> at Stake as well as we, and will shew of how great Consequ<ence> they esteem this Post to be, by the Defence they make: We he<ar> nothing of them, and may hence conclude they are prepar<ing> to oppose you at some Pass or other, for I cannot think they will receive you only on your Landing near the Fort. If there be any way to come to the knowledge of their Strength & situation no means should be left unessayed to obtain it. I am not without apprehensions that they will count num<bers> with you, in which case twou'd by no means be adviseable to at<tempt> any thing more than the Forts you think proper to build or at least you will wait for the arrival of any Reinforcements you expect. I see no Steps taking here to send you <any> we don't know yet the alteration Gen^l Shirley has made in <Col.> Dunbar's orders, which is worthy of note, for if it was certain that he is not coming this way, the chief argument we have used against raising men would fall, and then perhaps we should say it is too late; an objection of our own raising, as in my humble we sho'd have gone on, as we

prop^{<os'd>} at first: you know more of what the Eastern Governments are doing than I do. Mr Dies told me he had mention'd to you the building of a Scow or Flatt or two, like those used by the Ship Carpenters here in careening Vessels, with this difference that there be a Breastwork to cover the Men; the mounting some of the Field Pieces in these, he thinks may be of great use in your Landing, where a strong opposition will be made; they are to be row'd, or set with Poles, the former is best because the Men when at their Oars will not be so much exposed to the fire of the Enemy. If the Oakum falls short, they may be caulked within side either by soft wood, or tough Bark, even your 12 pdrs might be carried this way perhaps.

9, oClock. I wrote the above at 12, when the Gov^r gave me your Letter of the 15th: I am now preparing circular Letters to send by Express for the Assembly's meeting on Tuesday next, when if it is not *too late* I hope we shall proceed to raise the 400 Men, as Gen. Shirley has ordered Col. Dunbar to make another attempt this year on Duquesne; I fear the season is rather too far advanced. You are certainly right in your application for Reinforcements, & tho I think you may safely advance a good Way without them, perhaps even to Tienonderoga if the Enemy have not seiz'd that Pass, yet I am of opinion twould be prudent to stop there (I mean the Party you send, the others need not advance so far) till the Succours arrive. A very little time will do the Business I conjecture if you are strong enough to attempt the Fort; and 'twere better in my Judgment not to attempt, than attempting not to succeed: Your Honour Character and Reputation and I may add your own Inclination will lead you on to the attack, and your Prudence and Foresight will if necessary be a sufficient check on the other Hand. I do not mean to influence you either Way, as that must be determined by the Strength of the Enemy, which I think you shou'd even risque the Loss of some Men to obtain. I much regret your want of Indians, not only for their assistance, but that it would be the highest Proof of your strong Influence among them, which I am of opinion a

certain Gentleman intends very unfairly to deprive you of, if he can, or if he cant, yet to represent it as weak; if this be his View it will be in your Power I dare say to disappoint him, and to place his Conduct in this Matter in such a light, as will render it <conspicuously mean to> those who are to judge between you. Is it <possible that> he said he had advanced £5000 to you for the <Indians?> I rather imagine, you mean others by his Direc<tion or> knowledge. I am sorry the Connecticut 3 Comp^s <seek> occasion to be discontented, they would have the advantages of their own Governments Encouragement, and ours too. they can much easier supply their Troops with live Cattle than we can: Their Billeting Money is paid & they have <half> a pint of Rum I suppose allowed them, or it was to be I know: what will they not want next. They were to fare as our own Troops, except billeting Money which it seems Mr. O. DeLancey agreed they should have. I suppose you <have> the Means of repairing the men's Arms & have wrote for Flints. I gave you a hint that our Assembly have provi<ded> for an Armourer in the Copy of the Act I sent you. Dr. Middleton I believe to be a sensible Man, and as he's your Physician it will give no Umbrage I believe if <he> is near you. I hear too with concern that you are not so healthy as usual, let me intreat you to consult your Health and Safety as much as possible for one in your Situation. You'll be much wanted, and consequently gre<atly> miss'd. I admire at your not loosing a Man in your March, & hope your caution will prevent it, for such losses though not considerable may be discouraging to some. Next to the taking the Fort, is the measure of building Forts, which are necessary too on many Accounts, and it will be an Encouragement to your Men to see their Retreat, and the means of their Subsistence secured. Besides the Vessels mentioned in the Boston Paper to be taken by our Fleet, it is said we have taken another 64 Gun Ship. A private Letter from Boston mentions it, and a Man who is returned to day Express from thence, says the Account came too late for the Papers, and was believed.

I should be glad to know if you've settled any certain method of conveying Dispatches to you. .Conn^t are Raising 500 and Boston 800, and what we shall do, I must inform you of in my next. I suppose you don't include the New Hampshire Reg^t in the number of 2850. You have more leisure now and I shall expect the favour of a few lines to him whom you are convinced is with the greatest Sincerity and Affection yours

GW BANYAR

Mr. Colden, Dr. Farquhar & Mr. Dies are now in my Room and desire their Compliments as I do mine to Mess^{rs}. Eyre Wraxall & Middleton.

GENERAL JOHNSON.

INDORSED: Mr Banyar's Letter 23 Aug^t 1755 Recd 29 d^o Ans^d.

FROM PETER THOMSON

A. D. S.

Camp at y^e Grate Carrying place y^e. 23^d Aug. 1755

S^r.

A return of the priseners under my Charge

Lawrance Parkly of Cap^t. Halls Comp^y. in Coll^o. Cockcrofts
Ridg^t. Confind By Lt. Sam^l. Jones for fiering his pece
Contrary to y^e Orders of y^e Camp

Sam^l. Devonport Confind By Coll^o. Coal Till further Orders
&c.

Elijah Milds of Cap^t. Burts Comp^y. & Coll^o. Williams Ridg^t.
Confind By me for sleeping on his poast

PETER THOMSON officer of y^e Guard

FROM EDWARD COLE

A. D. S.

A Report of Camp Guards at the Great Carrying place Aug^t.
24th. 1755

Have Recev^d. no Reports from the Main Guard Col^o. Titcombs Col^o. Cockcroft Regimt^s. went the Rounds but found the Centrys not very alert.

Parole Ruggels

EDW^d: COLE

To GEN^L. JOHNSON Esq^r.

INDORSED: Col. Cole's Report as Field Officer

TO THE COMMISSARIES AT ALBANY

A. Df.

*Camp at the Carrying place
August the 24th. 1755.*

GENTLEMEN

As the Indians Muster Strong here now & the provisions which were first Sent up for them will not last long, You are therefore hereby ordered, & directed to Send up imediately the whole of the provisions allowed by y^r. Governments for that Service. Giveing the Waggonners a Strict Charge to take good Care of them. the Waggonners who brought up the former distroyd a great quantity of them and ought not to be paid the whole

Take a receipt for w^t. provisions Y[ou] Send of the Waggonners.

INDORSED BY WRAXALL: Generals Order to the Commissaries at Albany for Provisions for the Indians.

TO JAMES DE LANCEY

*Df.*¹

[Aug. 24, 1755]

SIR

I recd yr. honours fav^r. of the 13 Inst. <You will see> by the Minutes of the Council of War what <we> think necessary relating to the New Hampshire Troops and as they are a fine Body of Men & we stand so much in need of them, I concur in Opinion with the Council of War & have sent an Express to Col. Blanchard to join us with all possible Dispatch & I doubt not but the Colony of New Hampshire will readily put the affair of Provisions on an equitable Footing with the other Gov^{ts}.

I have now ab^t 60 Indians with me & expect today or tomorrow 200 more & hope in the whole we shall have near 400. I am throwing up works here but am affraid the Service will not leave time perfectly to finish them before we move, 300 Men are now at work on them under the Direction of Cap^t. Eyre & will continue at it till Gen^l Lyman marches with the last Division.

As to Gov^r Shirleys conduct & mine with regard to Indian affairs I have not time to write out & put several Papers in order w^{ch} indeed with sundry others I thought most prudent to leave at Albany, but upon the present Face of things, I hope my Condu<ct> will be justified by my Superiors & if I sho<uld> throw the new Lights I have in possession upon this unfortunate affair I think Gen^l Shirley will appear very culpable.

¹ By Wraxall.

TO THE SEVERAL GOVERNORS

Df.¹*Camp at the Great <Carrying Place> 24 Aug^t 1755.*

SIR

herewith I inclose your honour the Minutes <of a> Council of War² wth I called & at w^{ch} were present all the Field officers in Camp. I refer you thereto for particulars.

That we have many natural obstacles to expect that the French may of themselves out number us — that they will take post & fortify themselves in some advantageous Place on this side Crown Point, probably at Tionderogo — that they will greatly out number us in Indians and that by the Cognawagas engaging in their favour, our Indians will in general be less willing to take part with us as they are very many of them related to the Cognawagas & have Mothers, Sis^{rs} Bro^{rs} &c. amongst them & that some of our Indians will upon that Acc^t. actually decline engaging — I say that I incline to these Opinions & therefore do agree with the Council of War in thinking that all present Circumstances collected, very strong & speedy Reinforcements are necessary to obtain the Acquisition of Crown Po<int.>

The Road is now making from this place to Lake St Sacrament where I propose to build Magazines & raise a defensible Fortification<ion> either as a safe Retreat in case we should find the Enemy too Strong for our Force & be obliged to quit our ground or upon well grounded Intelligence find it the most prudent Measure to halt there till we receive reinforcements.

As I think the Troops under my Command both officers & Men seem to be animated with becoming Resolution & Courage, I hope they will approve themselves in all respects worthy of the Confidence w^{ch} their Country hath reposed in them and I shall endeavour to the utmost of my abilities to fulfill the Duties of that Station in which I am placed. If we should not be so happy

¹ By Wraxall.

² August 22, 1755, *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:1000-2.

as to gratify the Expectations of all, I hope we shall not deserve the Reproach of any. Under the Conduct of the greatest human abilities, Success is ever precarious & detirmined by that Power w^{ch} no Mortal hand can resist. We are engaged in a Righteous and a Glorious Cause and as far as Courage ought to carry Men I hope it will carry us.

I hope the Gov'ts in general & yours in particular will consider the naked State of their People who in the approaching Season will stand in need of some Warm Cloaths & Bedding, surely they deserve this Consideration & relief, and I think it would be an affront to the Humanity & Generosity of y^r Colony if they needed any Arguments to Stimulate them on this Occasion.

I propose to march ¹ with the first Division of about 1500 Men & some Indians & a few Field Peices for Lake St Sacrament & to Order the remainder of the Troops to follow as soon as possible with the heavy artillery & Baggage. I am Sir

Your Honours Most Obed^t hum serv^t

To the SEVERAL GOVERNORS.²

INDORSED: Generals Letter to the Several Gov^{rs} with Copies of Minutes of Council of War, 24 Aug^t. 1755.

GEORGE GARDNER TO EDWARD COLE

A. D. S.

Report of the Quarter and Rear Guard of the Rhode Island
Rigement under the Command of Coll^o Christopher
Harris. Alls Well

Parole Ruggels

GEO GARDNER officer of y^e Guard

in Camp

Aug^t 24th: 1755

¹ In the letter to Phips "To Morrow or next day" is inserted between "march" and "with."

² The letter to Phips is in the Massachusetts Archives and the Public Record Office, London, England.

TO THOMAS POWNALL¹*Camp at Carrying Place,
24th Aug^t, 1755.*

SIR:

By Accounts I have from Canada by 4 Mohawks, whom I sent there some time agoe, and returned 3 days agoe, it appears that the French will Make a very great Opposition, Nay, bring all the Strength they have this way. I call'd a Council of Warr Yesterday, and sent their Oppinion to the Several governments concern'd in this expedition, to which I refer you; I purpose marching tomorrow with the first Division, consisting of 1500 Men & some field Peices, for Lake St Sacrament, & some Indians. Maj^r General Lyman is to follow me as soon as the New Hampshire Troops join him here, which I have ordered them to doe emediately, as we have fall'n on a Method to Support them, as long as there are provision in the Army. We could not spare so many good men as they are look'd upon to be. Capⁿ Stodard Arrived here Yesterday with old Hendrick's Brother & 12 Young Indians, and says M^{rs}. Farrell, Butler, &c., will be here tomorrow with old Hendrick & about 200 more; those, with about 40 who accompaned me hither, & others who are to follow, will Amount to About 300. As soon as I arrive at the lake I shall erect Magazines, and build a place of Strenght Again the rest of the forces come up. Our Indians here seem much Disperited at the News of the Caghnawageys declaring in favour of the French, as well as at General Braddock's Defeat; there is an Indian expected here to-morrow, whom I sent with Dispatches to the General, and was in the engagement with him, who has told the whole Affair to the Indians very particularly, this you may Imagine may have no good Effect at this Critical Juncture; besides the Acc^{ts} Bro^t from Canada, by the 4 Mohawks, of the French's strenght and their Indians and the weekness of our Troops, which they hourly Complain of, Discourages them so

¹ From *Pennsylvania Archives*, ed. Samuel Hazard, ser. 1, 2:393-94.

much, that I may without vanity assert, Nothing but their regard for me would engage one of them to go a Step; what with Disertions, sickness &c., we shall not be above 3000 Effective for Garrisons, &c.

Capⁿ Eyre has laid out a p^s of fortification here round Lydius's Log House, which if finished, would be very Serviceable in case of a retreat, but as it is thought too large by most of the officers, & Cannot be finished before we go, It give so Great Uneasiness, that they purpose to Apply to me About it, I understand this day.

Extracts from the Council of Warr

That the road from La Praire to St Johns, is full of Waggons, of provisions & Stores, constantly passing and repassing; that the Brige and another Vessell are making Constant return to & from Crown Point; That there were in the Fort 100 Men, 200 more were Marching to join them, & that more were coming in such parties, that the French would be Superior to us, Not only in the number of Troops, but also of Indians. The Caghnawageys having taken up, the Hatchet against us, and the French calling in all the Indians they have in Canada; That the French are making Several New Works at Crown Point, and that if our Army Marched by Wood Creek, they intended to fortifie themselves and Oppose us at So^s Bay, if we marched by Lake St Sacrament, at Tiecondaraga.*

* This is the Narrows below Lake St. Sacrament.

JEHOSOPHAT STARR TO EDWARD COLE

A. D. S.

Camp at the Great Carrying place August the 24th. 1755

Quarter Guard in Colonel Goodrich's Regiment
Parole ... Ruggels

The Rounds passed as Usual no Extraordinarys all is Well

JEHOS^T: STARR

To COLONEL COLE officer
of the Day

TO BENNING WENTWORTH¹

*Camp at the Great Carrying Place
24th. of August 1755*

Collonel Blanchard sent me your Excellency's Order to me respecting Your Colony's Proportion of the Pensilvania Provisions — When Governor Shirley was at Albany he took the Management of that Affair within himself, How they were Disposed of and Every thing relating to them, I am a Stranger to but as you will see by the Minutes of the Council of War that these Troops are to be provided out of the Common Stock, I Have Ordered Coll. Blanchard to Join us, & hope he will be here in a Day or two, in the mean while you will Settle the Other Affair by the Advices you will receive from Col. Blanchard and your Province take the Necessary steps for Supporting their Troops.

INDORSED: Copy of a Letter from
Gen^l. Johnson to Gov^r.
Wentworth. Aug^t. 24th. 1755.
in Gov^r. Wentworth's Letter
of Sept^r. 3^d. 1755

FROM SPENCER PHIPS

*Df.*²*Boston 25 Aug^t. 1755 —*S^R.

I wrote you the 8th: Inst. that this Governm^t had made provision for reinforcing the Army under your command with 800 men including the 500 formerly ordered to be inlisted & held in

¹ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5.16, London, England. Postscript of letter of August 24th. See Johnson to the Several Governors, August 24, 1755, for all but postscript.

² In Massachusetts Archives.

readiness upon an Emergency. I have since received your Letter dated at the Camp at the Great Carrying Place 15th: Inst: together with the Minutes of your Council of War respecting a reinforcement, and I hope that it will not be long before you are joined by the additional Troops of this Government. I did on the 20 Inst. give orders to the inlisting Officers to render an account on or before the 27 Inst: of the whole number of men by them respectively inlisted to Samuel Willard Esq Col^o. of said additional Forces: and at the same time ordered the said Col^o. to compleat as many Companies as the said Enlistments shall be sufficient for, & to march for Albany with such Forces as shall be ready (& not marchd before) upon the first day of September, and I have this day renewed my orders to the Colonel for this purpose, and the Com^{ee}. of War have sent one Vessel & are now sending another with the necessary Stores & Provisions for them.

Some of the Companies I am informed are already full and you may be assured of my utmost endeavours to forward them with all dispatch: I have given orders to the Muster master to take particular care to see that their Fire Arms be sufficient, and as I have not long since allowd the Committee of War to send one hundred bar^{ls} more of Powder to Albany for the Service of this Expedition I am in hopes there will be no want of Ammunition; this Government hath now furnished upwards of Five hundred ba^{ls}. and as much as can with safety be spared out of the Province

I am, Sir

Your humble Servant

MAJ^R. GEN^L JOHNSON

INDORSED: Boston 25 Aug^t. 1755

L^t Gov^r. Phips Letter to Maj^r Gen^l Johnson's

TO THOMAS POWNALL

Df.¹Camp <at the Great Carrying> Place <25 Aug^t 1755>

DEAR SIR

I received & am extreemly obliged <to you> for it, your fav^r. of the 16 Inst. My Milita<ry Departm^t> gives me in many Instances great perplexity & requires more time & attention, than it is sometimes possible for me to give it, for tho I have at present not quite 60 <Ind^s> with me, yet that tedious particularity w^{ch} is their Character at all times, & their insatiable thirst of Rum takes up more of my time & gives me more constant Uneasiness, than all the affairs of the Army would otherwise do. imagine that you see my Tent from Morning to night crowded with Indians, with officers &c. all impatient to be heard, each thinking his own affairs more important than the others. I obliged to hear all whilst my Pen & ink lies suspended. this is the real Picture tho but faintly drawn of my Life every day, w^{ch} I assure you renders it miserable & almost intollerable & tis in no ones power to relieve me. Besides all this I find our defeat at the Ohio & the Cagnawagas declaring in favour of the French, <w^{ch}> they have done, and Gen^l. Shirleys Violent proceedings &^{ca}. renders our Indians not only very cold but many of 'em most provokingly Insolent w^{ch} at present I must bear with Silence.

In this Sittuation I am absolutely incapable to answer your esteemed favour in the manner I would otherwise most willingly & readily do.

The Letters w^{ch} have past between Gov^r. Shirley & me & all other Papers relating to that Affair I thought most prudent to leave at Albany, so that I cannot draw them out for y^r perusal till my return there. I am sorry for it because I think when you read these things you would not only condemn but be astonished at Gen^l. Shirleys conduct. I doubt not his Intentions to hurt me at home, may be probably has put it in Effect. I hope y^r. Friendly

¹ By Wraxall.

Interposition will gain me a Suspence of Judgment at least, till I can more fully defend myself. Gov^r. DeLancey & Mr. Banyar will <tell you the> News from hence, to them my <time> obliges me to refer you, for I have kept the <Expr>ess while I wrote this & he must not be longer detained I am with most cordial Wishes My Dear Sir &c.

Capt Wraxall begs you will accept his Salutations

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: August 25th. 1755. Letter to Tho^s. Pown<all> Esq^r.

TO PHINEAS LYMAN

D.¹

Camp at the Great Carrying Place 26 Aug^t. 1755.

Instructions for Major General Lyman.

1.

That all former standing orders be observed throughout the Camp, a Scouting Party sent every day for two or three Miles round.

2.

That immediately upon the Marching of the first Division under my Command you order Col. Titcomb to remove the Encampment of his Reg^t. & that one compact Camp be formed of the whole.

3.

That till you receive Marching Orders from me the Works now throwing up be carried on under the Directions w^{ch}. the Chief Engineer will leave for that purpose.

4.

That the Battoes be collected together & secured & Sentries placed over them.

¹ By Wraxall.

5.

That upon the Arrival of the New Hampshire Regiment Provisions be issued to them conformable to the Opinion of the last Council of War.

I have left some Indian officers & Sachems to receive & come forward with the Indians I hourly expect, I beg you will take all possible Care to prevent any Rum being given or sold them or any Trafick carried on by any of the Troops.

If any Dispatches should come for me you will please to forward them.

INDORSED: Instructions to Gen^l. Lyman Camp at Great Carr^s Place.

FROM THOMAS FITCH

L. S.¹

Hartford 29th. August 1755.

S^R

Yesterday in the afternoon I Rec^d your Letter of the 23^d Instant with the Inclosed Minits of the Council of War and the Assembly then Siting I immediately laid them before the Assembly for their Consideration and have the Satisfaction to Acquaint you that the Assembly as well as the Colony in General are Spirited to Exert themselves to the Utmost in Supporting you and the Troops under your Command against all Opposition that can be Raised, for the Purpose the Assembly have Resolved to Raise fifteen Hundred Men over and above the five Hundred which are now Raising being in the whole Two Thousand Men to Reinforce the Troops in the Crown Point Expedition the Assembly are making all Necessary Provisions for Raising these Recruits with all Possible Dispatch and for furnishing and Supporting them in the Service the Particulars of which I am not yet able to Acquaint you with I hope these Additions will Joyn you in a very Short time as it is Apprehended Dispatch at this

¹ In New York Public Library, Emmet Collection.

Season is of the last Importance I shall Write to the Other Governments to let them know what we have Determined and Urge them to do their Parts and make no doubt but that they will be Rous'd to push on this Service with Strength and Vigor I tho't proper to give you this Early Intelligence that the Spirits of your Men may be kept up and you be better able to lay your Plan of Operation in due Season, I doubt not but you and the Officers with you will Act in the most prudent manner as well as with all proper caution and Resolution and loose no Advantage that may be taken of the Enemy when we have done all we can, our Dependance is and must be on him who Overules all things according to his Rightious Pleasure and Saves them that put their Trust in him

I am Sr with great

Respect your very

Humble Servant

THO^s. FITCH

MAJ. GENERAL JOHNSON

TO PHINEAS LYMAN

*Df.*¹

Laſe <Sacrament 29 Aug^t 1755>

SIR

We arrived here Yesterday Evening & <made a> tempory Encampment in w^{ch}. we continue. We <found> no Ground cleared, but we are about it; however, <till> Cap^t. Eyre comes up, a Place for a Fort fixed on, a more regular Encampment made & ground laid out for the rest of the Army, all w^{ch}. I hope will be done in a day or two, I must beg you will not move. I would wish the heavy Artillery to come along while the Weather is dry, but not the Stores till you come, a working Party must set out a little before to repair the Road in those Places where it may require, I think 50 Men for a Guard, 25 workers for the

¹ By Wraxall.

Road & 25 to cover them will be sufficient, as I have sent out this Morning reconnoitring Parties several ways.

You will take Care the Waggoners now sent return as soon as possible, upon their return I shall dispatch them back to you & send orders for your Marching I am Sir Your most hum serv^t.

W^m. JOHNSON

TO MAJOR GEN^L LYMAN

You must keep a good look out upon the Waggoners or they will desert, if attempted make an Example.

INDORSED: Letter to Gen^L Lyman from Lake St Sacrement.

FROM SPENCER PHIPS

*Df.*¹

Boston August 30. 1755.

SIR,

I have rec^d. your Letter of the 24th. Instant with the inclosed Result of the Council of War. I am sorry that you are likely to have so powerful an Enemy to grapple with but am glad to find your Resolution & that of the Officers & Soldiers under yr. Comand remain so firm & that you are using all the necessary Measures for the Safety & Comfort of the Army; I shall give Orders that all the Supplies both for their Cloathing & Subsistence shall be provided & sent forward with all possible Speed; I am fully perswaded that you will still endeavour to obtain all the Intelligence you can of the State of Affairs with the French; Which will be of great Service for your Conduct in this important Enterprize; I am taking all the Methods in my Power that the Eight Hundred Recruits ordered by this Govern^t. to be raised should be compleated as soon as possible; But that Matter has been retarded by some Officers undertaking to enlist Soldiers beyond their Ability to the Hindrance of others who might have better succeeded if they had appeared in Boston; to undertake it.

¹ In Massachusetts Archives.

There are two or three Companies already upon their March, & divers others will set forward next Week. It is my earnest Desire that you may have the gracious Conduct and Direction of the Divine Providence & that our righteous Cause may be blessed & succeeded; & the Measures we are taking for the Preservation of our Rights & Possessions have a prosperous Event. I am with great Respect

Sir Your humble Serv^t.

S. PHIPS

The Hon^{ble}. MAJ^R. GEN^L. JOHNSON.

FROM BENJAMIN STODDART

A. L. S.

SIR

In Obedience to your Commands shall give you as particular an acc^t of Crown Point as I Possibly can recollect from the rough Minutes I took when there (Viz:)

Fort St. Frederick (or Crown Point) is Situated on the Lake Chamblain Five Leagues from the North End of the Lake St. Sacrament where a Bay to the Westward forms a Point on which this Fort stands, it is Built of Stone the Walls a Considerable Height and thickness, and has Twenty One Pieces of Cannon and Swivels Mounted on the Ramparts and Bastions, the Largest of which are Six Pounders and but few of them; I observed the Wall crack'd from Top to Bottom in several Places. At the entrance of the Fort is a Dry Ditch Eighteen or Twenty Feet Square, and a Draw Bridge under which is a Subteraneous passage to the Lake which I apprehend is to be made use of in time of need to bring Water into the Garrison as the Well they have affords them but very little.

In the North West Corner of the Fort stands the Citadel, a Stone Building Eight Square and Four Story High, each turn'd with Arches, Mounts Twenty Pieces of Cannon and Swivels, the Largest Six Pounders, Four of which are in the First Story and are consequently useless till within the Walls. At the entrance

to the Citadel is a Draw Bridge and Ditch of the same Demensions of that to the Entrance of the Fort. The Walls of the Citadel are about <Ten Feet Thick, the> Roof is high and very tauht cover'd with Shing<les. To the> South, South East, and South West of <the Fort> is an Eminence of Ground much higher then that <where> the Fort stands, and is very advantageous for <erecting a> Battery as the highest part of the Eminence is not above One Hundred and Fifty Yards from the South West Bastion, the Ridge runs Circular so as to Flank the South East Bastion at the distance of about Three Hundred Yards; behind the Ridge the Land is Low and a Great Number of Men may lye without Sustaining any Damage from the Cannon of the Fort, the Hill being a pretty secure Covert for them.

As I am sensible you are well acquainted with the importance of this Place to the French, need say nothing on that head it being the only Place of retreat to all the parties Sent to annoy our Frontiers, as it stands North of Albany about One Hundred and Twenty Miles. I am Sir

Your most Obed^t. Hum: Servant,

B: STODDERT

The Hon^{ble} MAJOR GENERAL JOHNSON

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Stodderts description of Fort St. Frederick.

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Df.*¹

Camp <at Lake George, 1 Sep^r 1755>

SIR

I apprehend that yr. <Excell^{cy} is too much engaged> to wish that I should interrupt you by a particular <answer> to your Excell^{ys} Letter of the 4 past, sure at least I am that <it> is not in my power to do it without neglecting those aff<airs> w^{ch} I imagine you will judge to be of more Consequence.

¹ By Wraxall.

I have not since I left Albany had suff^t time either for Meals or for rest, w^{ch} has had a bad Effect upon my health. I continue & am like to continue in the same Sittuation till the Expedition is ended.

Before I left the Great Carrying Place with the Advice of the Council of War ¹ a work of Defence wth magazines &^c was thrown up there & in great forwardness. I hope it is by this time or will in a day or two be finished; by the advice of the same Council of War I wrote to Gov^r. Phips, Gov^r. Fitch & Gov^r. DeLancey to forward with all possible Dispatch those Reinforcements w^{ch} their several Gov^{ts}. had resolved should be sent us when called for & pressd the other Gov^{ts} concerned to send their Quotas.² I call'd another Council of War a Copy of the Minutes ³ of w^{ch} I send y^e. Excell^y herewith I followed their Advice Two days after I marched from the Carrying Place with about 1500 Men & 40 Indians being all that had then joined me besides some Scouts I had sent forward — The 28 past in the Evening we arrived here without meeting any Enemy, we discovered the Tracts of their Spies. It was all a thick Wood & not a foot of Land cleared, that work was immediately begun & still continues, tho we are now pretty regularly encampt. I forgot to mention that to proceed by way of this Lake was judged by the Council of War most eligible. This Lake w^{ch} the French call Lake St Sac<rament> we have called Lake <George. The 29 or 30 we were> joined by near 200 Indians. <I propose to build a Fort> here & to set about clearing the Ground with <all possible> Dispatch. Some Indians I sent out on the Scout <tell> me they discovered a party of French & Indians at Tionderogue, but that they have no works there — I am impatient to get a number of Battoes up & put in order, when I

¹ See Minutes of Council of War, August 18, 1755, above.

² See Minutes of Council of War, August 15, 1755, *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:680-1; Q, 2:396-97.

³ See Minutes of Council of War, August 22-23, 1755, *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:1000-2.

propose to proceed with a party of the Troops & take <part¹> at <Tionde>roque — We have had great Desertions of Waggon w^{ch} very much distresses & will I fear greatly retard our proceedings — The remainder of our Provisions & Stores are ordered from Albany & I hope that will give us a Supply of Waggon — I have had advice from General Lyman who I left in the Command at the Great Carry<ing> Place that they had had one Man Scalped & 1 taken Prisoners who were about 3 miles from the Camp looking after Cattle belong^g to the Connecticut Troops — this is the only accident that has happened to us from the En<emy>.

Several of our young Indians are very eager to go a Scalping, but are withheld by the Sachems who have dispatched another Message & w^{ch} is to be the last to the Cagnawages.

2^d. Sep^r. — I have this Minute a Letter from The Gov^r. of Connecticut advising that their assembly have voted 1500 Men besides the 500 voted to be ready when called for & that they will be sent in companies & join us without Delay.

The Indians who returned from Canada say the French told them there were 300 Cannoes gone to Cadaraqui but further particulars I cannot learn, when I hear any more relating to these parts I shall acquaint your Excellency, but unless we take a Prisoner I believe tis not likely I shall for our Indians will not trust them selves amongst the French.

To Gov^r. SHIRLEY

INDORSED: Letter to Gov^r. Shirley.

FROM ROBERT ORME

A. L. S.

Philadelphia, Sept 2^d. 1755.

D SIR

I received the favor of yours which <alway> gives me the greatest pleasure I most heartily wish the affairs with you went

¹ This word should without doubt be "post."

on more to your Satisfaction. It is im<pos>sible to judge properly at this Dista<nce,> but by your Account of the Numbers now in Crown Point and the Manner in which they send their Detachments, I should be inclined to think they <could> not reinforce that place to make it by any means a Match for the Numb<ers> with you and that the more vigorous the attack was pursued the more likely it would be of success.

I am extreamly concerned to find the misunderstanding between you <and> Mr. Shirley it would have given the General <the> greatest Uneasiness to have seen the least <Di>fference where the strictest Union was so absolutely necessary.

<The> Papers you sent fell into the Hands of Coll <Du>nbar who will not part with them he showed them to me they seem to be absolu<tely nec>essary to be laid before the Ministry at <Home> for which Reason I should be glad you would have them immediately copied and <sen>t under Cover to Mr. Alexander at New <Yo>rk where I propose being in about three <W>eeks In my Way to England. I will deliver them my self when I shall have an Opportunity of informing the Ministry of your good Intentions Ability and the Confidence the General put in you, with the alterations <his> Death may probably make to the Indian affairs all which you may assure yourse<lf> shall be done in the highest Manner to your Character and Advantage, for which purpose I shall be glad you would info<rm> me of such Things relating to the Indian affairs as I am at present unacquaint<ed> with and your real Opinion as <to> the Form they are likely to take upon the Continent with the best Means to gain or preserve them that I may be enabled to speak the more confidently and it <will> be proper also in a Letter to Lord Hallifax and the Secretary of State to refer them to <me> for further Information as it may be a ve<ry> good method of making the Conversation be<come inter>esting and give me an Opportunity of del<iver>ing the Sentiments of the late General in <rega>rd to you.

I hope to meet these Papers at <New> York and if your great hurry of Busy<ness> has allowed you to collect any little <Thin>gs for me I shall be infinitely obliged <to> you to have them sent at the same Time <pray> dont be later then the Time mentioned.

<I beg> you will present my Complements to <Mr.> Wraxall and assure him how much I <am> obliged to him for his extream polite <In>quiries after me I wish I could have been <so> happy to have had the Pleasure of his Ac<qu>aintance remember me also to Cap^t. <Ay>res I hope you find him useful.

<If> you have any good Maps of your part of <the> World or Drawings that could be copied I should be very much obliged to you for them.

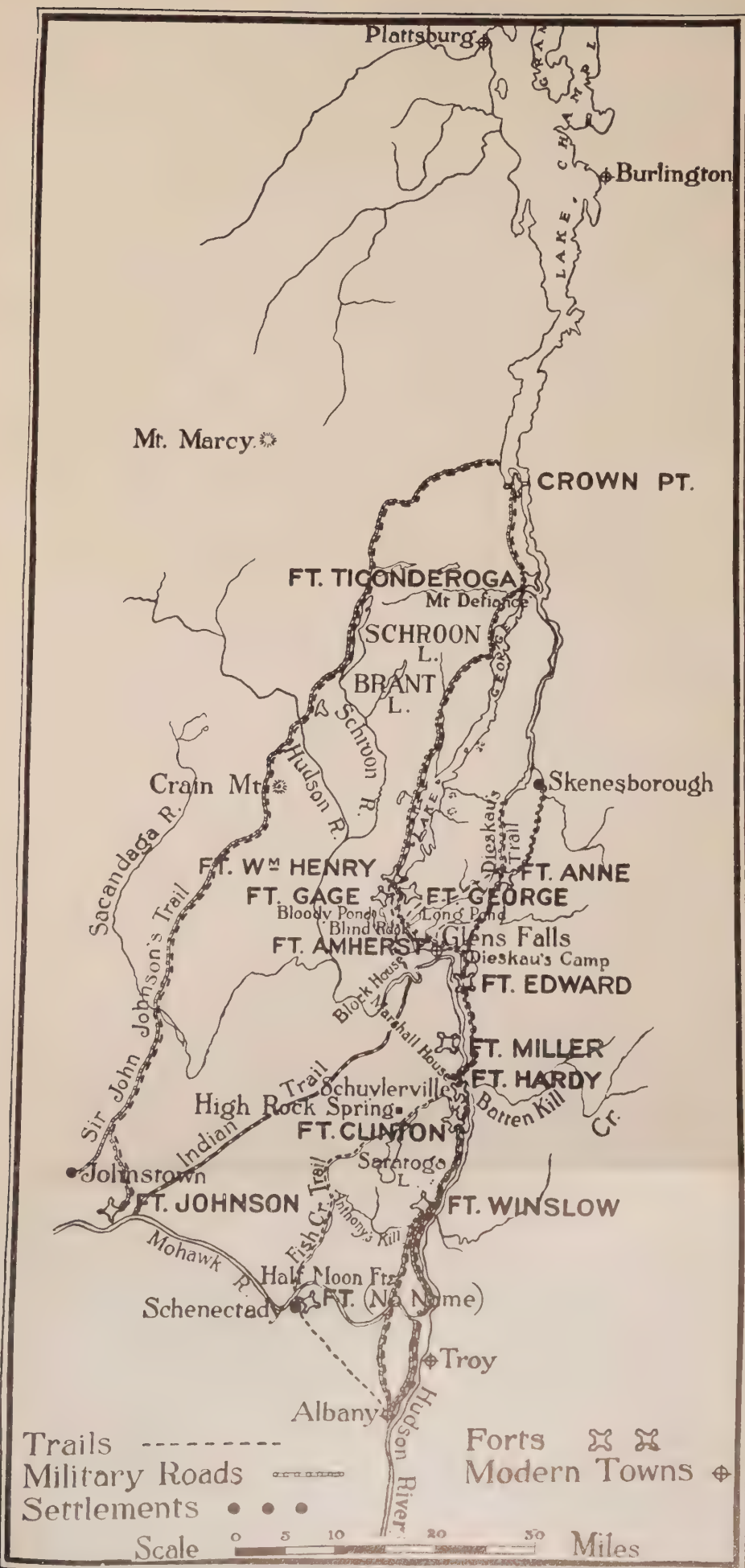
If one Mr. Shaw should join you who seems very much inclined for that Service I should be obliged to you for any Civilities shown to him I think he ma<y> be of some Utility he was recommended by the Duke of Cumberland to the General as a very desperate enterprizing Man and very expert in gaining Intelligence

I beg in your Letter to New York to me you will mention your present Situation and the hopes or Fears of Success or not or if you think upon the whole you shall attack C. Point this Season.

I most sincerely wish you all possible Success in the Busyness you are now employed in and in every future Undertaking and I shall think myself most particularly happy if I should ever have it in my Power to contribute to your Happyness. I hope our Correspondence will not drop at my quitting America but that you will continue to <wr>ite to me and to direct for me in Hollis Street London. and whatever Services I may do you in England I must desire you to employ me in as I shall be glad to assure you how much I am Dr Sir

Y^r. most hum^{bl}. & obed^t. Serv^t

ROB^t ORME.



TRAILS, MILITARY ROADS AND FORTS FROM ALBANY TO CROWN POINT,

1750-1780

APPENDIX

TO EDWARD COLLINS

A. L. S.¹

Mount Johnson febr'y. 1st 1745/6

DR. SR.

I send you the inclosed ^{to} Mr. Miller, being Powels Deed of his Land to have y^r. Opinion of it. and if good, or Sufficient to let me know in what Manner I must make the purchase or if in case his Wife will not agree to sell to let me know whether He can dispose of it for his life time, and in what manner and the Nature of the deed. and that as Soon as you can possibly, for he wants to go away Soon. to Pensilvania.

there is a Son of Garret Newkirks who is in My Debt, and is now going to run away from those parts wth. an intent never to return, wherfore would have y^u. take a writt out for him directly, he will be gone in 2 or 3 days if not catched. wherfore beg the favour you will be active in it. His Debt is in all £9..14..11—that is his full Acc^t.; but the Ballance is £4..3..8 I dont value the debt so much, as the Evil intent of the fellow to impose upon me

leaving this affair, & the other to y^r. Care & dispatch, remain as ever y^r. Sincere freind, & Humble Serv^t.

WM. JOHNSON

ADDRESSED: To
Edward Collins Esq^r.
Town Major
of Albany

INDORSED: 1745
Will^m. Johnson Esq^r.:
About Powell's Deed
& to prosecute one
New Kerk

¹ From the collection of Willis T. Hanson, Jr., Schenectady, N. Y.

TO JOHN HENRY LYDIUS

A. L. S.¹*June 1st. 1747*

MAJOR LYDDIUS

S^r.

I send y^u. herinclosed a letter for His Excellcy., & another for M^r. Duane, w^h. I would beg the favour of You to forward Imediately by the first Safe Hand, and that Prisonner, along wth. them

He is a verry bold fellow in his Speech & I find will Stretch a great deal in some things. I would have Sent him to Coll^o Roberts, but heard he was gone to New York Express, However y^u. may give my Service to Coll^o. Marshall, if Coll^o. Roberts, is away, & tell him I would write to him but have my Houses all full, so do You do it for me present him before him as Commanding Officer, by way of Compliment that he may ask him any Questions, and then please to Send him of directly to York along wth. the letters. I have wrote to M^r. Wyngardt For Some goods, w^h. please to desire him to Send me up directly haveing a great Call for them.—

No More at present but return Y^u., & Major Rutherford hearty thanks For the limes wth. w^h. I have drank Y^r. Healths Severall times

I remain S^r. as Ever wth. all regard.—

Y^{rs}. Sincerely

My Compliments to M^{rs} Lyddius &ca & tell Josett my Houses are all full of french

W^m. JOHNSON

INDORSED: June 1, 1747 Coll Johnson

¹ In New York Historical Society, Miscellaneous Manuscripts, under Lydius.

TO JOHN HENRY LYDIUS

A. L. S.¹*Mount Johnson July 17th. 1747 —*

MAJOR LYDDIUS

SR.

I rec^d. y^r. favour, wth. Coll^o. Stoddards letter, & Invoice inclosed therin of Goods Sent You, & me, as he writes, for the Indian Service, but as Governour Shirley nor Coll^o. Stoddard never thought fitt to ask me whether I would take it upon me, or no, I dont See that I have any thing att all to do wth. it. for I think in my opinion, if thy Expected me to act in that affair, it was the least thy could, do, to write to me, and ask whether I would Choose to act therin, or not. as I have no news of Any Consequence to write I conclude as Ever Sr.

Y^r. Most Obed^t.Humble Serv^t.

P. S. My kind Compliments
to M^{rs}. Lyddius &ca

W^m. JOHNSON

ON REVERSE SIDE:

Were I to Act in this Affair, & dispose of them goods for New England Governments, it would be demeaning Myself verry much, to act as a deputy Agent to Coll^o Stoddard, or any body Else, but if it had been desired in a proper Manner I might For the good of the Common Cause have Complied with it, but on such a footing, I am determined to have nothing to do wth. it att all. So remⁿ. Y^{rs}.

W^m. JOHNSON

ADDRESSED: To

Major John H Lyddius

Att Albany

☞ Captⁿ. Ross

INDORSED: Coll Johnson July 17, 1747

¹ In New York Historical Society, Miscellaneous Manuscripts, under Lydius.

A MEETING WITH MOHAWKS

D.¹

March 20, [1748]

Att a Meeting, or Council Held at Mose's House In the Mohawks Castle, Sunday March the 20th Between Me, & the two Castles of the Mohowk Indians, upon my return from York—

Bretheren We must thank the Lord who has Spared our Lives, at this bloody, & perrilous time,— & has allowed us the pleasure, of seeing, & speaking to Each other this day.—

I had not time, since I came from York, to have a Council before, By reason of our great trouble, & Greif, for the Loss of our Great Brother Gingego, & his Party. being so barbarously Murdered by the Enemy.—

But now as that is a little over, I am come here this day, on purpose to speak to you, in our old Place of Meeting, & to let you know what News I have, as is the firm Agreement made between Us.—

Bretheren, In the first place, I must tell you The Governour, your Brother, was greatly overjoy'd to Hear of all your Welfare, & desired his Love to you. He also bid me tell you, & the Five Nations, that the Great King y^r. Father in a Letter to him lately, returns you his hearty thanks, for Your great Services, & readiness in Joining your Bretheren in the Warr. & is so Sensible of it, that as a token of his Love he has sent orders to his Governours Here, to take the greatest care of your Safety. Which your Brother y^e. Governour desired me to assure you, should be done as soon as possible; And Moreover has sent some Goods for your use. Which will soon be here in my Care for you.—

Bretheren, I must let you know that as y^e. Request I have sent down an Express to the Governour, to let Him know how

¹ In New York Historical Society, Colden Papers.

we are Murdered, & desireing he may send Us more Men, who May be ready, on Every Occasion to Join, & Assist you, which I dont doubt, (from his great regard for your Safety,) but he will send up proper Orders by the Express; and as soon as he returns I will let you all know it. Wherefore I desire you will not be down Cast, but keep Good Spirits, for I hope the Lord, who knows, our Cause, is Just, has something Good in Store for Us.—

Bretheren, your Brother the Governour, and his * Wise Men at York, were much Surprised to hear, that you, & some of the upper Nations had thoughts of Going to Canada. & indeed I myself, am quite amazed at it. after all I sayed to you, these two years past, about your going to that place, which will at last, end, I fear in y^r distruction, for that Governours tongue is poysoned, w^h. (if you are not blind,) you may every day see, & find out by sorrowfull Experience.—Now for example, he sent you all, an Invitation to come to him, & he would be very kind to you &ca, & in the Mean time Murders your people, in y^e most barbarous Manner that ever could be thought of. Even as I may say In your feilds, when you are only takeing Care of your own. Wherefore I now insist upon it, I Conjure you by this Belt of Wampum. that None of you will offer to go, that Way, but keep true to the Engagements made to your Bretheren here, who are Sincere, & mean Nothing Else, but to live, & die as Brothers wth. you, in defence of our Country.—

Bretheren, I must now tell you, that the Govern^r. your Broth^r. desires me to go among the Nations, in order to stop their going to Canada, this Summer, & He expects, as do I, that you will be ready to go wth: me to Onondaga, & use your Best Endeavours, to the same end, & further to assist me in Stirring up all the Nations, to revenge the Blood of our Bretheren Slain, then the World will be convinced, (& the French to their Sorrow) that we are Brothers, & Inseparable —

* Meaning the Council.¹

¹ This is in Johnson's handwriting.

Att a Meeting of the Mohawks Held at Mount Johnson Ap^l: 8th: to give an Answer to what I said to them when I came from York last Month, & to hear what News of an Expedition ~~th~~ the Express Lucas Speaker spoke as follows —

Brother, We are come here to Answer you upon what You said to Us lately. relateing to our going up wth: you to the Five Nations —

But first, we must tell you, that four days ago, we rec^d: a Message with 3 Strings of Wampum from the Onondagas, desire^g: us to come there, to a Meeting of all the Nations, which was to begin in 8 days, We sent them word back, that as you were not at Home, there could be nothing concluded before you Come — and When you come back, that we would acquaint you of it & follow your directions —

Now in Answer to what you said to Us lately desireing we would not be down Cast & that we should have soon assistance. We acquaint you now — as follows —

Brother after Seriously, & cooly Considering what you have to Us, with our Bretheren the Conajoharees. We answe^d. You, that upon Your Encouragement to Us, we will for ever Continue firm in our Resolutions, & keep up as Good Spirits, as People in our present Condition, possibly Can, & hope you will fulfill Your Promises to Us, that is, to stand by Us, & assist Us As we are firmly resolved to do by You —

In the Next place you forbid one of Us going to Canada upon any Account whatsoever —

Brother Your Commands in that, are very hard. As we have Severall of our Cheif Bretheren there in Chains. & of every Nation. this long time, which almost breaks our hearts. However As You promise Us, that you will get them from thence, We Intirely rely on you, for their speedy Redemption. & therefore promise you by y^s Belt of Wampum that we will not for the future go nor Suffer one of our people to go that Way. And further will Assist you in all our power at this Next General Meeting to be held at Onondaga, to stop Our Bretheren of the Five Nations from going there —

Brother You desired to have three Sachems from Each of our Castles along with you & some young Men to take care of them —

Brother In Answer to that, we tell you that three Sachems from Each Castle, shall be ready to go with you, but we think it will not be proper at this time, to take away Our young Men from Home, as we are but few in Number. least in their Absence the Enemy should come and destroy Our Castles. Nevertheless you are Master, if you will have it so, it shall be so —

Brother We have no more to say at present but again most earnestly to beg & intreat by this Belt of Wampum

that (since we Can see no Prospect of Your going agst: the Enemy to destroy them, as we Expected this long time) You may no longer feed us with Promises of Assistance, but now give us Men who are fitt to go wth: Us, & we will endeavour what we Can, to revenge the Cruel & barbarous Usage we have (thorough Your Means) received from the French, & their Ind^s: lately & to let them feel the Effect of our resentment — Then we shall be thoroughly Convinced you have a Brotherly love for Us, as we have for you —

INDORSED: Col^o Johnson's Speech to the Mohawks & their Answer

FROM BENJAMIN STODDERT

A. L. S.¹

Albany, Sept^r ye 30th. 1748

SIR/

I arrived here with the party under my care last night about Ten O'Clock, and send you a Couple of Lres (w^{ch}. came up in John Winne who Left New York Two Days before us, tho'. did not arrive till Last night) w^{ch}. I presume may give you an Acc^t of orders being sent up to the Commissioners to Supply us

¹ In New York Historical Society, Miscellaneous Manuscripts.

farther with Provisions, His Excellency has not wrote you by me but desired me to tell you he would do every thing you writ to him about, and desires as he Imagines the Indians may Venture out freely now that you would send him some Venison, Wild Turkey &c and that against the Kings birth Day if they are Possibly to be had— We got down to New York on Fryday (about 12 o'Clock) after we left this, the French Gent. were well received and seem much pleased with New York, and by what I can learn they are Obliged to wait their till the return of an Express from Boston before they can dispatch the Bussiness they came about, therefore believe it will be Sunday or Monday next before they'll leave York. His Excell^y. keeps Van Ess to bring them up again.— I have no news all friends are well and desired their Compliments to you, and Am with the utmost Esteem

Sr.

Your most Obed^t. Hble Serv^t.

B: STODDERT

P. S.

Pray excuse the Badness
of Pen Ink and Paper

My respects to Mr. Frazier I have not
time to write him now

The French Gent. in Gen^l. desired their Compliments to you

ADDRESSED: To

Col^o William Johnson

at

☞ Express Mount Johnson

TO ANTHONY VAN SCHAICK

A. L. S.¹*Mount Johnson January the 30th. 1749/50-*

MR. VANSCHOIKE

SIR

I had the pleasure of two letters from you, Since Your Captivity, by both of which, & by what I heard from others that Came from thence. I am proud to find Your Spirits are not Cast down by all your Hardships. which is the plainest Demonstration in the world, of Your Loyalty, and I hope one time, or Other it may meet with a Just return. I assure you there's none Could have Your Sufferings more at Heart than I, which occasioned me, together with the Duty I owe to my Sovereign to take all the pains was in my power to bring about an Exchange of Prisonners, which I was in hopes would have been perfected long ago, I haveing taken all the French Prisonners without Exception, last Spring out of the Hands of the Indians. which I thought would make every thing easy, on Both Sides. I have done it out of my own Pocket, nay Cloathed them ever Since, and keep them at my own Hous as if thy were my own Family, which no Body Else Could ever have done, nor would Attempt it. I am Sorry to hear that Somebody told the Governour there that it was my fault the Prisonners were not Exchanged because I would not let them go Untill I was repaid, all the money I payed, & layed out for them. You May Assure His Excellency if ever You have an Opertunity, that what He heard on that Account, is False, for Nobody has it more at heart than I, to Bring about a good Understanding between them, & Us. Otherwise, (he, or any thinking Man may Judge), I should never have taken so much Pains In that Affair. I am farr from censuring Mankind, but I cant help Saying, that after all we have

¹ In the collection of James Fenimore Cooper, Albany, N. Y.

done, The French are really in the Fault. The Bearer of this Cap^t. Benjamin Stoddert is Sent by Gov^r. Clinton in order to take another tryall for the generall exchange of all the Prisoners, whom I Expect will Succeed, as there is no Obstacle now left. After What the Gov^r. Gen^l. promised Mr. R Sanders. My kind Regards Attend You, and all freinds there In generall. not forgetting the Indians. whose familys are all Well. & Expect them Soon. I am Dr. Vanscoike

Your Sincere freind, & Hearty Welwisher.

W^m. JOHNSON

My Compliments to Mr. Strowds
who I hope is well, and has
received what I sent him by
Mons^r. Deslinggery

ADDRESSED: To

Mr. Anthony Vanscoike
att Quebec
In Canada

INDORSED: Let^r. Mount Johnson Jan^{ry}. 30
1749/50 W^m. Johnson Sir
to Anth^y. Vⁿ. Schaick
Prison^r. Quebec ¹

¹ Indorsement in a different hand and of a later period.

TO OLIVER DE LANCEY

A. L. S.¹*Mount Johnson Novbr. 3^d. 1753*S^r.

I heartily congratulate You on your Safe arrival from England and am extremely glad to hear You have left Lady Warren and Children in perfect Health, a Continuance of which I sincerely wish them.

It is no small pleasure to me, that the Settlement of S^r. Peters Estate, & other affairs is fallen into so good Hands as I understand by yours of the 14th Ult^o. (which I did not receive untill last night) they are.—

As to what dealings (if I may properly call them so) was between my Dr. Uncle & me, I never kept any acc^t of. takeing it for grant, by the many letters he wrote me when yet In Ireland, by what he told me when he sent me from Boston to Settle here, & by Several subsequent letters, that He would give me a certain Tract of Land in Warrensborough, and Supply me with all things necessary to carry on my Work. He did accordingly Send me many things out of his own good Will severall of which really were useless to me. these things I used, in Clearing a Farm out of the thickest timbered Woods I ever saw where I laboured sorely the best of my Days, not doubting in the least it was for myself. I being at York He desired I would give him Bonds for them Sums, which I did, but never made any entry of them, so easy I was about it, untill I received a letter from Lady Warren last Summer relateing thereto — upon w^h. I enquired of the Cheif Justice our present Governour who told me he did not know any thing ab^t my Acc^{ts}. with S^r. Peter but desired me to apply to M^r. Nicholls, who was kind enough to Shew me his Books, whereby I found that I had given three different Bonds, at different times to the amount of £1025 Sterlg. or thereab^{ts}. this is all I know ab^t. it haveing kept no Acc^t.

¹ In New York Historical Society, Warren Papers — 1639-1795.

(as I before observed) of what he was pleased to Send me, and all I can say is that I should be verry glad to have it Settled, and I doubt not but You Sr. and the other Gentlemen concerned will think it reasonable (If I am not to have the land I Improved on Warrensborough,) that then I should be allowed the Expenses I have been at, which was verry considerable. I could make it much clearer to You, had I the pleasure of Seeing You, which my Hurry now (occasioned by my being so long from Home this past Summer) debarrs me of at present.

In the mean time allow me to Assure You Sir

I am

with much Esteem

Your Most Humble Serv^t.

WM JOHNSON

My Compliments to Your
Family in Generall, whom
I hope are all well

OLIVER DE LANCEY Esq^r.

INDORSED: Col^o. W^m Johnson y^e 3^d Nov^r

Rec^d y^e 15th Nov^r 1753

Answered y^e 17

CORRESPONDENCE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS ¹

June 3, 1749—June 18, 1754

With respect to the Country of the Six Nations the Ohio,
&c.—&c.—²

Mr. Clinton, Governor of New York, in His Letter of the 3^d June 1749,³ acquaints the Board, that the Gov^r: of Canada had at that time Emissaries amongst the Six Nations, who by

¹ In Library of Congress, British Transcripts, Egerton Manuscripts 2694, fo. 174.

² This phrase is underlined in the original.

³ *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:485–86.

dint of Presents & Otherways were Endeavouring to debauch Them in Their Fidelity to the Crown of Great Britain by persuading Them to go to Canada to humble Themselves for having joined the English in the last War, & to make new Treaties of Friendship & Submission to the French King;— That the Gov^r: of Canada threatened to make war upon the Missaguas & on other nations situate on the Lake Huron for having joined us in the War against Canada.

With this Letter Mr. Clinton transmitted One which He had received from Col: Johnson dated 28th April 1749,¹ in which He says The French Governor had maliciously taken from some Expressions used by Governors Clinton & Shirly in Their Letters to Him, to represent to some of the Six Nations, that They were considered by the English as Dogs or Slaves, & had advised Them to be on Their Guard; for the English were determined on the first Opportunity to destroy Them all.

——— In His Letter of the 7th July 1749² says, that several Parties of Indians had been fitted out from Canada to fall upon the English Frontiers; that They had actually killed some People in New England, & had made Those who began to resettle Their Farms on the Frontiers of New York to desert them.— That He had been informed, that about Five Weeks before several Bodies of Men, about a Thousand in the whole, marched from Montreal in Canada to the Westward, with Design, as He apprehended, to reduce or destroy the Indian Nations in Alliance with us.

Capt: Marshal, Capt: of an Independent Company at Albany, in a Letter to Mr. Clinton of the 23^d June 1749³— writes that Two New England Men, who were sent to Him by the Commander of Crown Point on the Escort of a French Sergeant & Five Men, had informed Him They had seen about 3 weeks before an Army of near 1000 Men marching in different

¹ *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:505-6. ² *Ibid.*, 6:517. ³ *Ibid.*, 6:518. See Celoron's Journal, *trans.* by Rev. A. A. Lambing, in *Ohio Archaeological Historical Quarterly*, October, 1920, p. 336.

Bodies from Canada towards Belle Riviere, the Back of Philadelphia, in order to prevent the English settling in those Parts; & that the said Boston-Men, also told Him, that a Party of Thirty Indians were then fitting out at Otterskill,¹ a Place about Three Leagues from Crown Point.

On the 19th of Aug^t. 1749² Col: Johnson transmitted to Governor Clinton an intercepted Letter from M: Levis, the chief Engineer in Canada, dated at the Fort at Niagara July 5th 1749, by which Letter, says He, Your Excell^{cy}: will see the Designs of the French "to cut off the Oswego Trade, & all Communication between Us & the Indians living beyond the Lakes"

The Engineer proposing that a settlement should be made on the North Side of the Lake Ontario on the River du Credit, which would be advantageous in stopping the Indians that come from the Lake *Haron* (He means Huron) to deal at Chouegon (Oswego) He adds, that to the South Side of the Lake Ontario some advantageous Place might be found, that would diminish the Land the English have along the Shore of that Lake & might even prevent any Design They might have of making some new Settlement.

Governor Hamilton, in a Letter of the 2^d Oct^r: 1749,³ acquainted M^r. Clinton, that He had learned from a Messenger, whom He had sent on purpose into the Country bordering on the Ohio, that Two Hundred French & Thirty Indians were just then departed from Logg's Town after having Summoned a Council of the Indians & made a Speech to Them (A Copy of which & of the Indians answer He incloses) to the following purport; That They would come again in the Spring to trade; that They were now going to whip Home Some of Their Children the Twightwees & Wangadots, & forbid Them to trade with the English, whom They would not suffer to come thither after that winter.

¹ Otter Creek, Vermont.

² *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:526.

³ *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:530-33.

Mr. Hamilton at the same time inclosed to Mr. Clinton a Copy of Two Papers He had received from M: de Celoron, the Officer who commanded the abovementioned French Party. In the first of These dated à Nôtre Camp de la Belle Riviere ce 10 Août 1749, He says, Nous ¹ avons sommé les Anglois que Nous avons trouvé dans un Village sauvage situé Sur le Bord de la Riviere de se retirer avec tous Leurs effêts, Sous peine d'être traités comme des Interlopes et des Gens Rebelles en cas de refus.² In the second He tells Mr. Hamilton; J'ai été bien surpris ³ de trouver des Negocians de Vôtre Gouvernement dans un Pais, sur lequel l'Angleterre n'a jamais eu aucune Pretension. Je les ai traité avec toute la Douceur possible, quoique je fusse en droit de les regarder comme des Gens sans aveu — — J'espere que vous voudrez bien defendre ce Commerce qui est contre les Traitez, et faire avertir vos Negocians qu'ils s'exposent beaucoup, s'ils reviennent dans ces contrées &c.— Je Sçais que Nôtre Commandant General Seroit très fâché d'en venir à quelque Violence; mais Il a des Ordres tres précis de ne point Souffrir des Negocians Etrangers dans Son Gouvernement.³

In Mr. Clinton's Letter of the 19th March 1750 He incloses Copies of several Letters He had lately received from Col: Johnson, containing Information of the indefatigable Pains the

¹ The French is underlined in the original.

² We summoned the English whom we found in an Indian village situated on the bank of the river to remove with all their goods, under penalty of being treated as interlopers and lawless people in case of refusal.

³ I have been much surprised to find traders belonging to your province in a land to which England has never had any pretension. I treated them with all the gentleness possible, though I should have been justified in regarding them as vagrants . . . I hope that you will be pleased to prohibit that trade, which is contrary to the treaties, and warn your traders that they will take considerable risk if they return to this country etc. . . . I know that our Governor in chief would be very sorry to resort to any violence; but he has very exact orders not to suffer foreign traders in his territory.

French of Canada were then taking to withdraw the Affections of all the Indian Nations from the British Interest, by Endeavouring to set the several Nations in Friendship with Us at war with Each Other. In One of these Letters Col: Johnson says; "The French have ever since the Peace, Officers and Interpreters, with Great Quantities of Goods for Presents among the Foreign Nations, but much more at a Settlement of Indians upon the Ohio River than any where else, as They are the only Body of Indians now upon the Continent, whose Friendship or Alliance is most worthy of courting; wherefore, if we lose Them, who have been for these Three Years so firmly attached to Us, it must be Our Own Fault, & the Consequences may be very bad, tho' not immediately felt. Upon heering that the Canadeans were busy mustering up a Number of Men for some Enterprise in the Spring, I sent an Express thro' the Five Nations to put Them on Their Guard &c.—"

Col: Johnson with the foregoing Letter sends Mr. Clinton an Account of a Conference He had held with the Two Mowhack Castles, in which is contained a Speech of One of Their Sachems, giving a long Account of the bad reception which Mons^r: Celeron met with from the Indians, & of His Declarations that He was sent to dispossess the English & to prevent Them from coming among Them for the future, & that the French Governor was determined early in the Spring to destroy all the Five Nations.¹

On the 28th June 1750 Their Lordships also laid before His Grace an Extract from Col: Lee, President of the Council of Virginia, dated the 11th of May 1750, in which He acquaints them, that He had received Intelligence, that the Six Nations with some French Indians were forming a Design to Extripate the Catawbas, a warlike Nation to the Westward of Carolina in amity with Us, that the French were projecting to move 1000 Familys of these Indians to Settle on the New River, a Branch

¹ *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:548-49.

of the Mississippi, West of the Great Mountains, a Part of the King's Purchase from the Six Nations at the Treaty of Lancaster in 1744.

Governor Clinton in His Letter of the 7th June 1750 upon the Evil Designs & Practices of the French transmits a Copy of a Letter He had received from Col: Johnson dated the 22^d May, in which He writes as certain Intelligence, that the French, with several Nations of Western Indians were resolved to destroy the Indians on the Ohio, & then the Five Nations, that the French Governor had in the preceding Autumn sent Orders to all the Officers in the distant Garrisons to use Their utmost Interest with all the Nations thereabouts to take up the Ax, & join Him against the Indians abovementioned, & that They succeeded so well as to get 15 Castles of the Ottowaweas &c — to join Them; that He (Col: Johnson) had received many Messages from the Five Nations upon the Subject of this News, which had alarmed them greatly.

The Board of Trade laid Copies of these Letters & of several Other Papers received with Them, before the Duke of Bedford in a Letter dated the 25th of July 1750, giving it at the same time as Their Opinion; "That unless speedy & effectual Measures were taken to support & enable Mr. Clinton to oppose & defeat the Secret as well as Open Attempts of the French to intimidate & withdraw the Five Nations of Indians from Their Alliance with His Majesty, the Friendship of those People, upon which the security of the Northern Colonies in a great Measure depends, would be in great Danger of being lost, & therefore Their Lordships entreat His Grace to lay the Matter before His Maj^{ty}: for His Directions.

Mr. Clinton, in a Letter dated Sept^r: 12th 1750,¹ transmitted Copies of a Letter He had received from Gov^r: Glen dated 7th. July 1750, & of One from Col: Johnson of the 18th Aug^t.

Mr. Glens Letter states the Danger the Catawbas were in of being destroyed by the War carried on against Them at the

¹ *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:587-88.

Instigation of the French (as He apprehends) by the Five Nations, the Delawars, some of the Ohio Indians, the Susquehannahs & Virginia Indians; & points out the Mischievous consequences arising from this War, as well in general to the British Interest in America as in particular to the Province of South Carolina.

Col: Johnson's Letter¹ gives Advice, which He says may be depended on, that Jean Cœur, a French Interpreter, a Noted man among the Indians, is sent with another Officer to Ohio River, in order to bring that Body of Indians over to the French; That He has for that Purpose a large Quantity of Valuable Goods to distribute amongst Them & all other Nations thro' which He passes; that the French Governor had given Orders to use all possible means to induce the Five Nations to settle below Cadaraqui; & that He was endeavouring to get liberty to build a Fort at Onondaga.

Mr. Clinton in His Letter of the 4th Oct^r: 1750 transmits several Letters & Papers, containing a further Account of the Intrigues of the French to withdraw Our Indians from Their Fidelity, by infusing Prejudices in Their Minds & by inciting Them to War with Each other. Amongst these Papers is a Message from the Ohio Indians to the Gov^r: of Pensylvania, setting forth the Apprehensions They were under upon having received News from the Six Nations, that the French were preparing to attack Them & desiring Assistance & Protection.

Mr. Lee, President of the Council of Virginia, acquaints the Board in His Letter of the 6th of Nov^r: 1750, that He had learned by a Messenger, whom He had sent to Onondago, that at least One Half of the Six Nations were gone over to the French & that there was reason to believe the Rest would follow.

Mr. Clinton in His Letter of the 2^d Dec^r: 1750 incloses a Letter from Col: Johnson of the 25th of Sept^r:² containing the

¹ *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:589.

² *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:599-600.

following Intelligence, which He had received from Two Englishmen, who had been taken Prisoners by a Party of Seven Indians sent out by the Officer commanding at Detroit to take or destroy what English They could meet; that the French were making all possible Preparations against the Spring to destroy some Nations of Our Indian Allies; that They met in the Lake Ten or Twelve large Battoes with Stores, Ammunition & Officers; that the French at Detroit had given Presents to Indians to murder Two Traders of Pensylvania; & that Jean Cœur was at that time amongst the Ohio Indians spiriting Them up against the English.

On the 15th March 1750-1 Their Lordships laid before the D: of Bedford a Copy of Mr. Clinton's Letter of the 17th Jan^{ry}: 1750-1 inclosing the Copy of an Inscription upon a Leaden Plate, stolen by the Indians from Jean Cœur the French Interpreter, by which it appears that the French Claim the River Ohio & all the Lands on both sides of it; & also Copy of a Conference held by Col: Johnson with the Indians who brought Him this Plate, containing several Declarations made by Jean Cœur of Intentions to stay Three Years at the Ohio, & to build Trading Houses at Niagara & at the Carrying Place between the Ohio & Lake Erie.¹

Mr. Clinton's Letter of the 13th June 1751 transmits (amongst many Others) a Paper He had received from the Commanding Officer at Oswego, containing a Journal of the Intelligence He had received between Febr^y. 5th and — May,² amongst which are the following Particulars; that Jean Cœur (alias Joncourt) had sent to the Governor of Canada for Men &c, to build a Fort on the Ohio; that the French had built a Fort at the Carrying Place above Niagara; that an Army passed Cataraqui, in order to build a Fort on the Ohio & to drive off the several Nations residing in Those Parts.

¹ *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:608-11.

² *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:706-7.

— In His Letter of the 29th Aug^t: 1751¹ was transmitted a Copy of a Letter from Col: Johnson dated the 27th July, giving Advice that a Body of 1200 French & 200 Indians passed by Oswego about a Fortnight before with a Design to cutt off some Nations of Indians to the Westward, & to hinder the Philadelphians from building at or near the Ohio; that this News was confirmed to Him by a French Deserter, & that He had sent it immediately thro' all the Nations. Col. Johnson's Letter incloses a Letter He had received from the commanding Officer at Oswego, containing Advice of the French being building a large Ship at Cadaraqui, & of His having heard from some French Traders of the March of the French Army, with which were 200 Orondack Indians, under the Command of Mons^r: Belletre & Chev^r: Longueville & that Their Design was against a Village of the Twightees, where the English were at that time building a Trading House of Stone; that They were to give the English warning to move off & upon refusal to act with Force.

Mr. Dinwiddie in His Letter of the 10th Dec^r: 1752 acquaints Their Lordships with the miserable condition of the Twightwees, the French having taken Their Town, & killed many of Their People;— that many of the English Traders had been robbed, Others murdered, Others taken Prisoners; & that the French had already built & continued to build Forts from Canada to the Mississippi. Mr. Dinwiddie transmitted with this Letter an Account He had obtained from a French Deserter of the Number & Strength of the French Forts, together with several other Papers; all which were transmitted to the Earl of Holderness in the Board's Letter of the 16th March, in which Their Lordships' express Their Apprehensions of the bad Consequences that must ensue, unless some Measures be speedily taken, & desire His Lordship to lay the Papers before His Majesty for His Directions.

Their Lordships also laid before His Maj^{ty}: that Part of Mr. Dinwiddie's. Letter, in which He proposes to build some Forts

¹ *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:728–30.

on the Ohio; & in another Representation recommended to His Maj^{ty}: the said Governor's Proposal to give £1000 out of the Quit Rents in Presents to the Twightwees.

Mr. Clinton in His Letter of the 9th June 1753 transmitted Copies of a Letter from Mr. Trent to Gov^r: Hamilton dated April 10th 1753, & of several He had received from Col: Johnson, containing Intelligence of the March of a great Body of French & Indians towards the Ohio.

Mr. Dinwiddie's Letter of the 16th June incloses several Letters which confirm the above accounts; & adds, that He is informed by a Person just arrived from the Ohio, that Two Parties of French Forces, of 400 Men Each, with 8 Pieces of Cannon & Other Stores, are just arrived there & are actually building a Fort.

On the 16th of Aug^t: Their Lordships laid all these Advices before His Maj^{ty}: in a Representation fully setting forth the Importance of the Territory in question, His M^{ty}'s: Right to it, the bad Consequences which must ensue to His M^{ty}'s: Colonies & the Advantages which the French would derive from the Possession of it.

In consequence of this Representation & the Letters which the Sec^{ry}: of State had received from Mr. Dinwiddie — the Orders sent to Mr. Dinwiddie & the Other Governors in Sept^r: 1753 were founded.¹

Mr. Delancey Lieut: Gov^r: of New York, in a Letter of the 2^d. Nov^r: 1753, transmitted a Copy of a Letter He had received from Col: Johnson, inclosing an account of what passed at a Conference He had held with the Six Nations, & giving Intelligence, which He had got from some French Men, that above 20 Sail of Transports were arrived that Summer in Canada with People to settle towards Ohio & that many more were Expected at Mississippi.

Mr. Delancey in His Letter of the 29th Nov^r: 1753² informs the Board, that He had received from the Earl of Holderness

¹ See *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:794-95.

² *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:815-16.

His M^ys: Orders in what manner to conduct Himself in case of any Encroachment upon or Invasion of His Maj^{ty}'s Territories in America; & incloses the Resolution of the Assembly upon those Orders. He also transmitted the Copy of a Letter from the Commanding Officer at Oswego containing Advice that the Designs of the French upon the Ohio had been defeated, & that Their Army was returned to Canada.

Copies of all these Papers were transmitted to the Earl of Holderness in the Board's Letter of the 16th of Jan^{ry}: 1754; but Their Lordships thought proper at the same time to inform Him, that it appeared by a Letter from Mr. Dinwiddie of a later Date, that the French had actually built a Fort upon the Ohio, & were determined to build Two more.

Mr. Dinwiddie, in His Letter of the 29th Jan^{ry}: 1754, acquainted the Board with the return of Maj^r: Washington, whom He had sent to enquire into the Proceedings, Force & Numbers of the French upon the Ohio & inclosed a Copy of His Letter to the French Commandant there & of that Officers Answer, together with a Copy of the Journal of the said Mr. Washington's Transactions upon the Occasion.

From these Papers it appears, that the French had erected a Fort on a Creek ¹ that runs into the Ohio, & had begun another at the mouth of the Creek; that there were in the Fort, where the Commander resided about 300 Regular Forces, & 900 more were gone into Winter Quarters in some Forts on Lake Erie &c but that They were to return by the Month of March, & then They fully determined, with all the Force They could collect, which were computed at 1500 Regulars, besides Indians, to go down the River Ohio, & build many Other Forts; that Their chief Residence would be at Logs Town, & that They had near 300 Canoes to Transport Their Soldiers, Provision, Ammunition &c —

Mr. Dinwiddie in His Letter of the 12th March 1754 informed the Board, that the Assembly had voted £10,000 for

¹ French creek.

protecting the Frontiers; that He had in consequence of this Supply appointed Officers to raise 6 Companys of Volunteers to be at the Head of Potomack River by the 20th of that Month; that He should order Them to escort the Cannon, Stores &c — to the Ohio, & to erect a Fort on the Fork of Monongehela; & that He much wished for a Regiment of Regular Forces, as the French threaten to have 1000 or 1500 Regulars at Logs Town, besides Indians.

Mr. Delancey, in His Letter of the 22^d April 1754 transmitted a Copy of the Deposition of Steven Coffen taken by Col: Johnson the 10th Jan^{ry}: 1754,¹ & the Extract of a Letter from the Commanding Officer at Oswego dated the 27th March.

Steven Coffen the Deponent having served as a Soldier in the French Troops from Jan^{ry}: 1753, His Deposition contains a particular account of Their Progress from Montreal to the Ohio; of the Dimensions, Strength & Situation of the Two Forts They had built [Fort la presqu' Isle, Brisque in the Deposition, & Fort la Riviere au Bœuf] & of Their Intention to build a Third, by Lake Erie & a Fourth at Lake Chadakoin. He deposes also that the Party did consist of 1500, Three Hundred of which remained to garrison the Two Forts, & Fifty at Niagara; the rest all returned to Canada; & that They would be there again the beginning of April.

The commanding Officer of Oswego's Letter contains Intelligence of the arrival of 400 French at Cadaraqui in Their way to the Ohio, & that 1000 more were to follow soon. This Intelligence was given by an Indian from Cadaraqui, & confirmed by Five French Soldiers, who deserted from Niagara.

On the 10th of May 1754 Mr. Dinwiddie transmitted a Copy of a Letter from Maj^r: Washington, & of the Affidavit of Ensign Wood Word,² containing an Account of the Surrender of the

¹ *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:835-37.

² In the original, Wood occurs, followed by Word, and in the margin Word is likewise written. The ensign's name was Ward. See *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:840-41, and *Writings of George Washington*, ed. Sparks, 2:6-7.

British Fort on the Ohio on the Summons of the Commander of a Body of 1000 French Forces, with 18 Pieces of Artillery. And on the 3^d of July the Board transmitted Copies of These Papers to the Earl of Holderness &c —

Mr. Dinwiddie in His Letter of the 18th June sends an account of a small Skirmish that had happened between a Party of French from the Fort which They took from Us, & a Detachment of Col: Washington & 40 men joined with some Indians in which we killed 12 & took 21 Prisoners, with the Loss of One Man only & Two wounded;¹ that Our Forces had erected a Stockade Fort near the Monongehela; that the Independent Company from South Carolina had joined Them; but the Two from New York were but just then arrived at Williamsburg. He observes that when the Whole are collected, including the 400 from North Carolina, They will amount but to 900, & expresses His Apprehensions arising from the Superior Force of the French.

TO VOLCKERT P. DOUW

A. L. S.²

New York Thursday Febr^y 20th:— 1755 —

DEAR SIR

After five Days passage I got Here, where I found the Assembly ready to break up, after haveing allowed Six thousand Pounds for Albany Fortifications three thousand Pounds for Schenectady, & one thousand for Kinder Hook, £20,000 for New York, the rest of the forty five thousand pounds which is to be Struck is left in the Treasury for other Services. We have no Acc^t. yet here, of the Troops arrivall in Virginia, there is a report that Some of the Store Ships arrived. As for raising

¹ See *Writings of George Washington*, ed. Sparks, 2:26.

² From an autotype facsimile in New York Historical Society, Miscellaneous Manuscripts. Original owned by Mrs Morris Patterson Ferris.

Men, or Companys as was talked of I find nothing of it Here. If there was be assured I should not be backward in doing what I promised.

As I am Your
Sincere Freind
& Hearty Welwisher

W^m. JOHNSON

the Assembly broke up yesterday and Sett of this Day for their respective Homes after passing 3 Bills Viz^t. one for the £45,000 another to prevent provisions being Sent to Cape Breton or Elsewhere on this Continent to the French the 3^d. is the Militia Act wh^h. is verry full. & Strict ———

Adieu In Haste ———

TO GOLDSBORROW BANYAR

A. D.¹

May the 6th. 1751

William Johnson & Company

A Tract of Land to the South, & South West of Scoharee in the County of Albany. Beginning at a certain place where two Roads, or Indian Paths meet, the one leading from Scoharee to the House of Skenewaseys an Indian, the Other to Ona'Ogh' Qua'gey, the S^d. Place, or Beginning is near, or by a Creek, or Branch of a Creek called by the Indians A'da'quagh'tan'gey from thence to Run down the Said Creek, & Branches thereof to a Certain place where the Germans formerly made Canoes to go to Co'nas'to'gey, then Still continueing down S^d. Creek to the place where it Empties into the large Branch of the Sus'qua'ha'na

¹ In Land Papers, 14:113, in the Secretary of State's Office, Albany, N. Y. Letter and address in Johnson's hand.

River a considerable distance below the House of the beforementioned Indian named Skenewasey, from thence along the Said River passing O'na'Oghqua'gey' Untill it meets or Joins to Pensylvania Pattent. takeing In (all the way, from the beginning of S^d. Bounds/Viz^t. the two Roads, to the aforesaid Pattent of Pensylvania) all the Lands (as Yett Unpattented) on Both Sides, or Shores of Said Creeks, and River for two Miles in Breadth, that is to say a Mile in Breadth from the Banks of the Creeks & River aforesaid on Each Side Containing above one Hundred, & thirty thousand Acres, Wher of we pray for one Hundred thousand Acres —

ADDRESSED: To

Mr. Goldsbrough Banyar
D. Secretary
of the Province of New York
In New York

until Tuesday the 21st. of May Instant ¹

unto Tuesday the 28th day of this Instant May ¹

Concerned whom ¹

Marregorettie
Terhone ²

¹ In different hand.

² In different hand at top.

JOHNSON AND OTHERS TO GEORGE CLINTON

D. S.¹

16 May 1751

To His Excellency the Hon.^{ble}
George Clinton Captain General
and Governour in chief of the
province of New York and
Territories thereon depending
in America Vice Admiral of the
same and Admiral of the White
Squadron of his Majesty's Fleet.
In Council.

The Petition of William Johnson
Thomas Butler and John Butler

Humbly Sheweth.

That there is yet unpurchased of the native Indian Proprietors thereof a certain parcel of vacant Land lying in the County of Albany near and adjoining to the Lake called by the Indians Canunda which is about two Miles distant from the Onondaga Castle And your Petitioners being desirous to purchase the said Lake as also six thousand Acres of the Lands around it extending two Miles into the Woods In order to obtain his Majesty's Letters Patent for four thousand acres thereof and the said Lake Canunda.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray your Excellency will be favourably pleased to grant them your Excellency's License to purchase in his Majesty's Name the vacant Lands and Lake abovementioned and described.

¹ In Land Papers, 14:114, in the Secretary of State's Office, Albany, N. Y.

And your Petⁿ. as in Duty bound
shall ever pray &c

W^m. JOHNSON
THOMAS BUTLER
JOHN BUTLER

16 May

51¹

INDORSED: The Petⁿ. of Col. W^m.
Johnson — Thomas
Butler and John
Butler for Lycense
to purchase the Lake
Canunda and 6000
a of the Lands around it.

16 May 1751 Read in
Council & Granted
And Lyc to purchase
issued dated same day

GW BANYAR D S Con

¹ In pencil.

A PROCEEDING IN COUNCIL

A. D.¹

Att a Council held at Fort George in the City of New York
the 19th. Day of Novbr. 1751

Present

His Excellency the Hono.

George Clinton Cap^t. Gen^l. &c

Mr. Colden	}	Mr. Murray
Mr. Alexander		Mr. Holland
Mr. Kennedy		Col ^o . Johnson
Mr. Cheif Justice		

Coll^o. Johnson Informed the Board that while he had the management of Indian affairs, [*he was Informed by the²*] y^e Commanding Officer at Oswego acq^d. him that some of the Onondaga Indians was inclined to dispose of some Lands about the Lake Onondaga and that an [*Onondaga*] Indian of the same Nation had told him as a great Secret. that one of the Principal Sachims, Called the Red Head (well known to be the most attached to the French) was gone to Canada upon the Earnest Sollicitations of some Agents employed by the French Governour, to give up a [*certain*] tract of Land, near, and about the [*Onondaga*] said Lake [*& at the Same time, told the Officer that*] where the French were to build a House [*there*] under colour of tradeing, and beged that whatever Use he might make of this Information, his name might not be mentioned the Red Head haveing such a sway over their Tribe, that [*not knowing which way it might turn, he not being as yet arrived from*

¹ In Land Papers, 14:140, in Secretary of State's Office, Albany, N. Y. First two pages of the original in Johnson's handwriting.

² Matter italicized and inclosed in brackets was crossed out by the writer.

Canada] it might endanger his Life. whereupon He Coll^o. Johnson immediately dispatched a Belt of Wampum to the Sachims of that Tribe to come down & speak to him. on the delivery of which, they Came when he [*importuned*] urged them to use their utmost endeavours, to hinder the French their Ancient Enemies, from Settling among them, Setting forth [*by Sundry Arguments*], the Ill consequences of their haveing such bad Neighbours, and also required them unanimously to oppose the Red Head when he returned, Should he be Strenuous in Countenanceing the French in any such purchase. All this they promised to Effect & returned to their Castles. That he heard afterwards from the Interpreter (then at the Onondaga Castle) that they were much divided between the two Factions, English and French, the Red Head Haveing made some overtures to the latter, [*in regard to the Sale of these Lands that*] from which it was difficult to recede [*from*], namely [*that*], If those lands were to be sold, the French should have them; [*but in Order*] To evade this Severall of the Principal Sachims Sent to acquaint him the Said Coll^o. Johnson that if he would send up a Deed of gift they would Sign it as a token of their Love, [*for which they*] Signifying He should not delay it. that he Sent up such a Deed, which was Executed by all that Tribe, the Red Head not excepted. That those Lands being two Hundred Miles Distant from his House In the Mohawks Country, it could not be supposed he had accepted of the Deed with a view to his own private Interest, that he was led into this Expence and trouble, by the Indians offering him the Deed [*for these Lands*] of which he could not avoid accepting, in the Situation he was therein. as Principal Agent with them Under his Excellency the Governour and to evince this, that he is ready to relinguish all right or pretension to the Lands on being reimbursed. That he is of Opinion those Lands ought not to revert to the Indians, but be as soon as possible appropriated by the Crown, or Subject for [*farther that the Lands at Irondequat tho fairly bought by the English, & the Indians at the Same time desirous they Should*

be Settled, in so much then they offered to assist any would live, or plant there, to bring up their Utensils, as Ploughs, Harrows &ca. Yet as the Ground is not as Yet surveyed, of any further notice taken of it, He thinks the Indians Imagine they are at liberty to dispose of it Otherwise and that he has been credibly informed the French are tampering with them about the Sale of Irondequat, as well as the Lands on, and about the Onondaga Lake; their Success in which Acquisitions would be attended with a train of Evident Ill Consequences too formidable to need any aggravation]¹ For altho the Ind^s. had sold their Lands at Irondequat and were then so desirous they should be settled as to offer to the persons who would live or plant there to carry up their Utensils for Husbandry yet as the Land is not surveyed or any Measures taken to settle it the Indians think they are at Liberty to dispose of it otherwise and that he is credibly informed the Franch are endeavouring not only to buy the Lands at Irondequat [*but also*] of the Ind^s. but also those on and ab^t. the Lake Onondaga Which Acquisitions would be attended with a train of evident ill Consequences too formidable to need any Aggravation. His Excellency having required Opinion of the Council[*'s Advice on the said Information of Col. Johnson*] thereon They humbly advised his Excellency to lay the same before the Right Hono. the Lords Commⁿ. for Trade & Plant^s —

INDORSED: 19 November 1751
Minute of Council about
Lands purchased at Onondago
from the Ind^s. by Col Johnson

¹ The following to end is in another hand, apparently Banyar's.

DRAFT OF A WARRANT

D.¹

November 20, 1752

By his Excellency the Honourable
George Clinton Captain General
and Governour in Chief of the
province of New York and Terri-
tories thereon depending in
America Vice Admiral of the
same and Admiral of the White
Squadron of his Majesty's Fleet

To Cadwallader Colden and Alexander Colden Esq^{rs}. Surveyors
General of the province of New York Greeting

Whereas Col William Johnson did purchase of the native Indian
proprieters thereof ²

as by the said Indian Purchase may appear And Whereas the
said Col. Johnson hath declared that he made the said purchase
altogether with a view to prevent the said Lands from falling
into the Hands of the French of Canada (who were then en-
deavouring to purchase them) and not with a view of patenting
and selling the same [*at this time*³] they [*same*] being too remote
from any Settlements in this Government. And the said Col.
William Johnson having been at a considerable Expense in
making the said purchase His Majesty's Council did on the 26th.
day of May last advise that a Warrant should be [*directed*]
issued to the Surveyor Gen^l. to survey [*for the said Col. W^m.
Johnson*] the Lands so purchased by the said Col W^m. Johnson

¹ In Land Papers, 15:27, in the Secretary of State's Office, Albany,
N. Y.

² Considerable space left for a description.

³ Matter italicized and inclosed in brackets crossed out by the writer.

[*him as aforesaid*] and that the Survey thereof being made Returned and recorded the said Lands should remain as a Pledge to him and his heirs not to be granted to any other whatsoever until the Money he had expended or sho'd be obliged to expend concerning the same Lands be repaid him with Interest And that if he or his heirs or Assignes should think proper to accept of a Patent for the said Lands in lieu of the said Money and Interest that they ought to have it preferably to any other Subjects. You are therefore hereby directed and Required to survey and lay out the said Lands and to make return thereof accordingly That the same may be Recorded for the purpose aforesaid And for so doing this shall be your sufficient Warr^t.

Given under my Hand and Seal at
Arms at Fort George in the City
of New York the twentieth day of
November in the year of our Lord
one thousand seven hundred and
fifty two

INDORSED: Draft of Warrant
to survey the Lake
Canunda & Lands there
purchased by Col. Johnson

TO CHRISTOPHER JOHNSON

A. L. S.¹

M^t. Johnson October the 31st. 1754 -

HONOURED SIR

Since my last to you of the 26th. of May, I have had no acc^t. from you, so that I am anxious to know whether you receive mine duely. if not, I should Deem myself very Unhappy as it must undoubtedly give you an Ill Opinion of me, which I should by all means possible endeavour to avoid.

¹ In the Albany Institute and Historical and Art Society.

I am Sorely troubled to hear that some of my nearest Freinds, entertain so bad an opinion of my principalls, as to Imagine I would wrong them of Anything might be their Due. they Imagine, as I understand, Nothwithstanding the acc^t. was Settled here, & Sent Home, that I am indebted to the Estate of Sr. Peter Warren Deceased. Had He fulfilled his promises and Engagements to me, which was that I should have such a parcell of his Land, whereon I lived, & laboured hard many Years. then Indeed, I should have fallen Something in his Debt. but as that was not Settled, as promised, I was obliged to Charge for my Improvements, w^h. tho Short of what I expended thereon, makes the Ballance in my favour above Nine Hundred Pounds this Curr^y. the thought of paying which, is what gives Lady Warren Uneasiness, about the Acc^t. not for my Brothers or Sisters Interest, I am Convinced. I hope My Brothers & Sisters may never be prevailed upon to do so rash a thing as to Commence a Law Suit with me who have Suffered too much already in this distant part of the World, by means of those, whom I inclined to belive my best freinds, untill deceived. I am so Hurried that I must beg to be excused breaking off so abruptly, and Conclude with my Warmest Wishes & prayers for your Welfare. Hoping that the Great God may long Continue You to Us all, being our greatest Happiness,

I am Honoured Sir, with all filial Duty, & Respect

Yr Most Affectionate
& Obedient Son

W^m. JOHNSON

My Love to all my Bretheren
& kind respects to M^{rs}. Fay
and all enquireing Freinds
please turn over

As the Bearer hereof M^{rs}. Adams (who is wife to a Young Man I have had as Clerk Several Years) promised to call & see you, I would by no means miss the oportunity of writeing by so safe a Hand, I doubt not but She will meet with a kind reception,

as She is verrey deserveing & a Notable Sharp Woman, and of good People in the North. I send you by her an Indian Pipe to smoak with, as it may be a Curiosity there, it is Cutt out of the solid stone by them, only with a Knife. My Sister Catty tells me you take Snuff, wherefore I send you my Box, which tho trifling y^e. present beg you may think them worth acceptance, as comeing from Him who is Ever Yours &ca.

W J

My Sister Catty desires her Duty to you, and begs you will excuse her not writeing to you, as her Eyes are verrey weak after a fitt of Illness She had Comeing from Sea. She is now much better but cannot bear to read, or look on paper. Mr Ferrall is gone a tradeing Voyage among y^e. Indians for the Winter Season in Company with M^{rs}. Adem's Husband.

HONRD S^R

As I cannot wait of you myself yet a while, I send you my Picture, w^h. I had drawn four years ago, the Drapery I would have altered, but here is no Painter now can do it, the greatest fault in it is, the narrow hanging Shoulders, w^h. I beg you may get altered as Mine are verrey broad and square.

W^M. JOHNSON

ADDRESSED: To
Mr. Christopher Johnson
at Smithstown
In the County of Meath
Ireland

☞ favour
of M^{rs}. Adems



[illegible]

V. 2

19,240

The papers of Sir William Johnson.

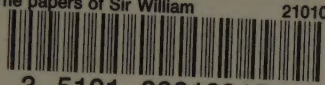
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